

MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE



横山光輝

Sekigao Mitsuharu, Sakagawa

山岡莊八＝原作

Genroku Sankichi, Yamaguchi





伊達政宗 4

横山光輝
山岡莊八 原作

講談社漫画文庫



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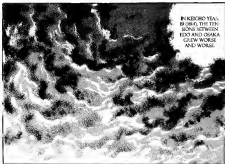
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OSAKA
HAD NEARLY
TEN THOUSAND
RONIN SEEKING
SERVICE.















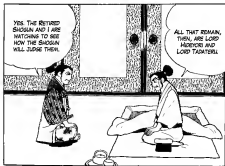
NO, THE
RETIRED
SHOGUN
APPARENTLY
WANTED TO
SMOTHER
THIS WHOLE
INCIDENT.



IS THIS
ALL UNDER
THE RETIRED
SHOGUN'S
DIRECTION?



BUT HE WAS RETIRED AND
LEFT THE GOVERNMENT
IN THE SHOGUN'S HANDS.
HE CANNOT INTERFERE.



YES. THE RETIRED
SHOGUN AND I ARE
WATCHING TO SEE
HOW THE SHOGUN
WILL JUDGE THEM.

ALL THAT REMAIN,
THEN, ARE LORD
HIDEYORI AND
LORD TADATERU.









Y-YES,
MY LORD!

I UNDERSTAND!
I SHALL SPEAK
WITH MY FATHER
DIRECTLY! IF
MAGAZON
HINDERS ME, I
WILL SLAY HIM
WHERE HE
STANDS!



AND SO, LORD
TADATEKUNI RODE
INTO SUNPU TO MEET
WITH THE RETIRED
SHOGUN





BUT DUE TO
THE DISCRETION
OF HIS BATH
POUNDER, IN
SUMPT, HIS
BUSINESS WITH
LORD HONDA
MASAZUMI ENDED
WITHOUT
INCIDENT



BUT IT APPEARS
HE STILL FELT
DISCONTENT
TOWARDS
LORD HONDA
MASAZUMI





NO,
I DO
NOT.



WHY?
YOU DO NOT
RECOGNIZE
THE
SHOGUN'S
OWN
BROTHER?



IS NOT THE
GOVERNOR
OF SUNPU
MASAZUMI?



THE GOVERNOR
OF SUNPU, WHO
HAS GONE TO
CLAIM ODHIMARA
CASTLE.



H-HOW RUDE!
ON WHOSE
ORDERS ARE YOU
GUARDING THIS
CHECKPOINT?



INDEED. HONDA
KOSUKE-NO-SUKE
MASAZUMI HAS
ORDERED THAT ALL
WHO PASS HERE BE
STRICTLY EXAMINED.

AND NO, THE
STANDARD BEARER,
NOMURA KICHIRU,
DIED



NINNI!
INSOLENT
FOOL!



THIS IS AN
INSOLENCE-KILLING!
TELL MASAMUNE THAT
MITSUOKURA KAZUSU-
NO-SUKE TADATERU
HAS SLAIN ALL THE
INSOLENT PEOPLE
BLOCKING HIS
PASSAGE!





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CHAPTER 46 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 47: MOTIVE AND MOTIVE









YOUR DOJO SEEMS
VERY ACTIVE TODAY.

WELL, MY LORD
DATE. I SEE YOU
ARE HERE EARLY
THIS MORNING.



SO THERE WILL
BE WAR THIS
AUTUMN,
THEN?

THE SHOGUN'S
RETAINERS ARE
EAGERLY ANTI-
CIPATING THE UP-
COMING WAR, SO
WE HAVE BEEN
PUT TO WORK.



OSADA IS STILL
HIRING ROKUJI,
FROM WHAT I
HEAR.



IT SEEMS
IT WILL BE
INEVITABLE...
WE SIMPLY
CANNOT
COMMUNICATE
WITH THEM.



BACKFIRE,
BUT

YES. THE
RETIRED SHOGUN
HOPES THAT THE
RETAINERS OF
OSAKA WILL UTTERLY
REJECT THEM, AND
THAT THIS WOULD
BACKFIRE.



HOWEVER, IF LORD
KATASIRI DOES NOT TAKE
NOTE OF THIS, AND USES
UP ALL THE GOLD IN OSAKA
CASTLE, THEY WILL HAVE
NO WAR FUNDS, AND WILL
BE UNABLE TO GO TO WAR.
AND IF LORD HIDEYORI
CANNOT GO TO WAR, HE
MAY BE BETTER OFF IN
OSAKA CASTLE...



Yes.

BUT WHAT THE
RETIRED SHOGUN IS
WORRIED ABOUT IS
THE MASSIVE OSAKA
CASTLE. IF ONLY
THE CASTLE WERE
EMPTY, THERE
WOULD BE NO WAR.



THEY HAVE FIRST BEGUN
RECONSTRUCTING THE GREAT
BUDDHA HALL OF HONDO
TEMPLE, AND ARE BUILDING A
MASSIVE TEMPLE BELL WEIGHING
164,250 KIL. IT WILL COST
THEIR MILLIONS OF RYO...



WHAT? HIS
EXCELLENCE'S
PRIZED COUNTER-
WEIGHTS?



AND HE HAS EVEN
MELTED 25 OF HIS
GOLDEN COUNTER-
WEIGHTS INTO COINS
FOR THIS.



LORD KITAGIRI
BELIEVES THAT
ALL DREAMS OF
WAR WILL VANISH
FROM OSAKA IF
HIS EXCELLENCE'S
INHERITANCE
IS GONE.

AND YET THEY
PLAN TO RECAST
MORE GOLDEN
COUNTERWEIGHTS
TO MAKE NEARLY
FORTY THOUSAND
COINS.



THIS, IN ADDI-
TION TO THE
COINS STORED IN
OSAKA CASTLE,
WILL BE SUFFI-
CIENT TO COVER
THE EXPENSES
OF THE GREAT
BUDDHA HALL
AND THE BELL.

YES.
THEY HAVE GAINED
39,799 GOLD COINS
THROUGH THAT.



YES, AND
THAT IS WHAT
THE RETIRED
SHOGUN IS
WORRIED
ABOUT.

FORTY
THOUSAND
GOLD COINS
SHOULD BE
ENOUGH TO
HIRE TEN-ODD
THOUSAND
KOHAI.







THIS IS MY
FIRST TIME
HEARING
OF THIS...



THE RUMOR
THAT HE SLEW
THE SHOGUN'S
RETAINER ON THE
HIGHWAY LEADING
TO OSAKA...
WAS THAT A
SIMPLE RUMOR?



IS
THAT
SO?



I SEE. WELL, I
SUPPOSE I SHOULD
APPLAUD LORD HONDA
INAKAZUMI FOR BEING
THE GOVERNOR THAT
THE RETIRED SHOGUN
APPROVES OF.



I SEE. AND
SIBLING RIVALRY
WOULD BE THE
HEIGHT OF POLLY
AT THAT POINT.

LORD HONDA IS BUSTLING
WITH MEETINGS WITH THE
RETIRED SHOGUN AND OSAKA,
AND HOWEVER LORD HONDA
HANDLES THIS POSITION AS A
GO-BETWEEN WILL DETERMINE
WHETHER OR NOT WAR WILL
BREAK OUT.





IT WAS AN
EXCEPTIONALLY
LARGE BOAR.
AND GRATEFULLY,
NOMURA'S IN-
HERITANCE WAS
SUCCEEDED BY
HIS SON...



OH, SO IT
WAS A BOAR
AFTER ALL...



USING THESE AS
WAR FUNDS WOULD
BE LIKE TRUSTING
A CAT WITH MILK.
THE CATS WOULD
NOT SIMPLY LEAVE
IT AS IT IS.

BY THE WAY,
YASU, IF YOU
WERE A RETAINER
OF OSAKA, WHERE
WOULD YOU HAVE
NEARLY FORTY TO
FIFTY THOUSAND
RYO IN ONE-RYO
COIN?



IT IS A FAR GREATER SUM
THAN A POOR MAN LIKE ME
COULD IMAGINE. I WOULD
SEAL IT IMMEDIATELY, AND
GIVE IT TO THE RETIRED
SHOGUN.



YES. UN-
FORTUNATELY,
SO IT WOULD
SEEM.

HAHAHA! NO FOOL
WOULD OFFER THEIR
FRESHLY-CAST COINS
TO THE ENEMY'S
COMMANDER!
THIS MEANS WAR
IS CERTAIN!



I WOULD LIKE
TO SAY THEY
WILL WIN, BUT
IT SEEMS THE
OPPOSITE IS
MORE LIKELY.

OSAKA CASTLE HAS BEEN THE
ONLY THORN IN THE RETIRED
SHOGUN'S SIDE FOR SOME TIME,
BUT THIS VIOLENCE WAR FUND HAS
BECOME THE SECOND THORN. THIS
WILL INCREASE THE OSAKANS'
CHANCES OF VICTORY.



YES.
BUT THERE IS
ONE WAY THEY
CAN TURN THE
TABLES.



SO, EVEN THE
GREATEST TACTICIAN
OF OUR GENERATION,
YASU FUJIMORI,
BELIEVES THAT
OSAKA WILL LOSE.

THEN IF THEY LEAD THE JAPANESE ROBIN WORKING IN PLACES SUCH AS LUDON OR SUM, SAIL INTO OSAKA CASTLE, AND ATTACK THE KANTO ARMY FROM BEHIND, THE TABLES WILL BE TURNED.

W-
WHAT?

IF THE OSAKANS HAD AN EXCEPTIONAL GENERAL, AND THEY BORROWED WARSHIPS FROM THE KING OF A COUNTRY LIKE THE INGLEZ OR ESPAÑA.

AAH...
CAN IT BE THAT HE
HAS BEEN THROUGH
MY INTENTION...?

BUT DO THE
OSAKANS HAVE
A MAN OF SUCH
SKILL?

HAHAHA!

I SEE. IF THERE WERE
SOMEONE ABLE TO DO
IT, IT WOULD BE KANEI
KUNIKIDA-KANEI OR
PERHAPS OTOMO
ARIMA...

ONE OF THEM IS LORD
MITSUNAKA TADATERU,
AND THE OTHER IS ONE
WHO LIVES IN THE FAR
NORTH, SOMEONE YOU
KNOW VERY WELL...
AND BOTH ARE THE
CORNERSTONES OF
KANTO, SO TOO BAD
FOR THEM.



REST ASSURED,
THERE ARE ONLY
TWO PEOPLE IN
JAPAN WHO COULD
DO SUCH A THING.

YES, AND I
WOULD NOT
THINK TO
SUSPECT THE
CONFIDANT OF
THE RETIRED
SHOGUN.



ARE YOU
SUGGESTING
THAT I AM
THE ONE WHO
LIVES IN THE
NORTH...?



HMM...

BUT LET US SAY I
WERE PLOTTING IT...
DO YOU BELIEVE IT
WOULD SUCCEED?





WHAT?
YOU MEAN
THE "NATION-
DESTRUCTOR"
CANNONS
THEY CAME
TO SELL?

WHAT IF LORD
MITSU-NO-KAMI
WERE TO ADVISE THE
RETIRED SHOGUN TO
BUY CANNONS FROM
THE DUTCH?



WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT?
THAT WOULD SURELY
SPELL KANTO'S
VICTORY!

THOSE NATION-
DESTRUCTORS COULD
ALLOW US TO ASSAULT
THE KEEP OF OSAKA
CASTLE AT WILL.
WHAT IF WE HAD
THOSE PREPARED?



YES, YOU WOULD MAKE
US THINK THAT AND HAVE
THE OSAKANS SUFFICIENTLY
PREPARED FOR IT... WITHOUT
THAT MUCH TRUST, TREASON
CANNOT SUCCEED.



HAHAHAHA!
I WAS ONLY
JOKING! HOW
COULD I ALLY
MYSELF WITH
OSAKA?



HE'S
TELLING ME
TO ABANDON
ANY THOUGHT
OF TREASON..



AH, YES. THE RETIRED
SHOGUN SIMPLY MUST
PURCHASE THOSE
"NATION-DESTRUCTORS".
I WILL RECOMMEND
THEM TO HIM RIGHT
AWAY.



PARDON MY
INTRUSION,
SIR YASU!



BUT IT IS
BETTER FOR
IBASHI TO HAVE
THE NATION-
DESTRUCTORS.



HAH,
I SHOULD'VE
EXPECTED THIS
FROM YAGU
MUNENORI...
HE UNCOVERED
MY INTENT
COMPLETELY.



AND THERE IS A
POSSIBILITY OF
CONSPICATING
THEM AFTER HE
SAVES THEM.

BECAUSE THERE IS
A CHANCE HE WILL
ENTRUST ME WITH
THE NATION-
DESTRUCTORS
HE BOUGHT.



HASEKURA
TSUNENAGA
SHOULD BE
IN ESPARA
BY NOW.



UNTIL THEN, I
MUST BUY TIME
AND ENCOURAGE
EDO AND OSAKA TO
REMAIN AT PEACE.

IT WOULD BE BAD IF
OSAKA LOST BEFORE
HASEKURA'S RETURN.

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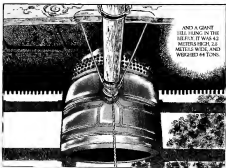
CHAPTER 48: THE NIGHT BEFORE THE BATTLE



ABOUT THIS TIME,
THE TOYOTOMI CLAN
USED THEIR MASSIVE
WEALTH TO RECON-
STRUCT THE GREAT
BUDDHIST HALL OF
HOKKO TEMPLE IN
KIOTO.



ALONG
WITH A
GRANT GILT
COPPER
BUDDHA



AND A GRANT
BELL HUNG IN THE
HELPER. IT WAS 4.2
METERS HIGH, 2.8
METERS WIDE, AND
WEIGHED 44 TONS.



IT IS SAID THAT THE EXPENSES SPENT WERE NO LESS THAN THE COST OF BUILDING ORAKA CASTLE.



PEOPLE BEGAN GATHERING IN THE CITY TO GAIN A GLIMPSE OF THE COMPLETION CEREMONY THEY NUMBERED OVER 100,000



508. KYOTO DEPUTY





YES. AND THEY
ARE ALL BONIN
AWAITING WAR TO
BREAK OUT.

IT SEEMS
THERE IS AN
ENORMOUS
CROWD HERE,
LORD DEPUTY.







OH,
I SEE.



THE DAY OF
THE BUDDHA'S
ENLIGHTEN-
MENT SERVICE
HAS BEEN
SETTLED.



YES.

THE KINPOLE-BURNING CEREMONY
WILL BE ON AUGUST 1, AND THE
MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE
BUDDHA'S ENLIGHTENMENT WILL BE
ON AUGUST 3. THEN THE MEMORIAL
SERVICE OF THE SEVENTEENTH
ANNIVERSARY OF HIS EXCELLENCE'S
DEATH WILL BE ON THE 17TH.
I AM THINKING OF REPORTING
THIS TO THE RETIRED SHOGUN.



WHAT DO
YOU MEANT?



DO YOU EXPECT
THE RETIRED
SHOGUN TO
APPROVE OF
THAT, LORD
KATAGIRI?





SO IT
WOULD
SEEM.



THAT WOULD
MEAN WAR
WITH EDO!



W-WHO
HAS
DECIDED
THAT?

ALL THE RONIN
GATHERING IN THE
CAPITAL UNDER THE
PRETEXT OF CELEBRAT-
ING THE COMPLETION OF
THE BUDDHA'S HALL IN
HOKO TEMPLE WILL GO
RIGHT FROM THERE TO
OSAKA CASTLE.



EITHER OMO HARUNAGA
OR AKASHI KAMON. AND IF
YOU, THE CHIEF RETAINER,
DOES NOT KNOW OF THAT,
THAT MEANS YOU HAVE
BEEN FORCED INTO A
POSITION WHERE YOU
WOULD NOT HEAR
OF IT!



BUT ALL OUR HARD WORK
WILL GO TO WASTE IF THEY
DO THAT! WE SPENT SO
MUCH MONEY ON THE
GREAT BUDDHA'S HALL TO
SHOW THAT WE DO NOT
HAVE A MILITARY FUND...



I AM BUT A GUEST
HERE. I HAVE NO
SUCH POWER. AND
THERE ARE MORE
PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE
THE TOYOTOMI
WILL WIN.

THE TOYOTOMI WILL
BE DESTROYED IF WE
FIGHT THE TOKUGAWA!
PLEASE, DO WHATEVER
YOU CAN TO STOP THIS
RECKLESSNESS, LORD
HIRAKUSA!



OSAKA CASTLE
WILL HOLD FOR
FOUR TO FIVE
YEARS. IN THAT
TIME, THE ESPA-
ÑAN WARSHIPS
WILL COME TO
SAVE THE
CHRISTIANS.



THE TOYOTOMI
WILL WIN!
WHAT BASIS
DO THEY
HAVE?





BUT THERE
IS NO WAY OF
SUPPRESSING
THEM NOW.



LORD KATAGIRI, NOW
THAT IT HAS COME
TO THIS, YOU MUST
WORK AS HARD AS
POSSIBLE SO THE
TOYOTOMI REMAIN
A LORD OVER EVEN
50,000 OR 100,000
KOKU.



KATAGIRI
KATSUNOTO
WENT TO
SINFU WITH
A HEAVY
HEART.





KATSUMOTO,
DID I NOT MAKE A
PROMISE TO YOU
THIS WINTER?



Y-YES,
MY LORD.

I SAID I WOULD ALLOW
LORD HIDEYORI TO LEAVE
OSAKA CASTLE AND BE
TRANSFERRED ANYWHERE
HE LIKES... AND THAT
WOULD BE THE ONLY WAY
TO AVOID WAR...



N-NOT YET...
I HAVE NOT
HAD THE
TIME TO...



DID YOU TELL
THIS TO LORD
HIDEYORI..?

THEN IT WILL
BE TOO LATE!



BUT I REPORTED
THAT WE HAD USED
UP ALL OUR WAR
FUNDS ON THE
COMPLETION OF
HOKO TEMPLE,
LIKE I SAID I
WOULD...



I HAVE BEEN STRICTLY
SUPPRESSING THE
TOKUGAWA TO MAIN-
TAIN MY PROMISE,
YET YOU HAVE NOT
PROGRESSSED ON
YOUR END!



DO YOU NOT
UNDERSTAND THAT
Clever MAKESHIFT
STRATEGIES MEAN
NOTHING ANYMORE?



WHAT IF, BY CHANCE,
AN UPRISING OCCURS THE
DAY OF THE COMPLETION
CELEBRATION, WITH THREE
HUNDRED THOUSANDS OF
RONIN GATHERED IN
KYOTO?

AND I HEAR YOU HAVE RECAST
THE GOLDEN COUNTERWEIGHTS INTO
NEARLY FORTY THOUSAND COINS!
YOU SAY YOU HAVE USED UP YOUR
MILITARY FUNDS, YET YOU SHOW
THE WORLD THAT YOU STILL HAVE MUCH
TO SPARE! THIS WILL ONLY SERVE TO
EMBOLDEN THE AMBITIOUS RONIN!









RYOSUKE TOLD HIM
TO HOLD THE
ENLIGHTENMENT
SERVILE. AFTER
LORD HIBIKORI
HAD ACCEPTED
TRANSFERAL.



BUT WHEN
HE RETURNED
TO OMAKA, THE
ADVOCACY
FOR WAR WAS
STRONGER THAN
BEFORE, AND IT
WAS NO NEED
IN WHICH TO
SUGGEST
HIBIKORI'S
TRANSFERAL.









THE NEWS OF
THE UNEXPECTED
MILITARY SERVICE
COULD SPREAD
THROUGH THE
TOWN AS FAST
AS WIND.



IF THE TOWNSMEN DID
NOT COME, THERE
WOULD REMAIN TO
BATTLE THE SOLDIERS
THAT FEARED THE
TOWN WERE CURSED
WITH THE CURSE
TO KILL.





WAS NOT IYASU
A RETAINER OF HIS
EXCELLENCE? HOW
CAN HE GIVE SUCH
AN ORDER TO THE
TOWNFOLK?



THAT'S RIGHT!
WHY DO WE HAVE
TO FOLLOW SUCH
A TYRANNICAL
ORDER?



PLEASE,
EVERYONE,
CALM YOUR-
SELVES!



WHAT?
A CURSE?

THE REASON IT IS
EXTENDED IS BECAUSE
THERE IS A CURSE UPON
IYASU WRITTEN IN
THE BELL.



THAT IS NO MORE THAN A PRETEXT!



YES 'NATIONAL PEACE' DIVIDES THE NAME OF STALL, AND 'PROSPERITY FOR MASTERS AND SERVANTS' MEANS THAT THE LORD OF THE TOKUGAWA WILL ENJOY HIMSELF...



THAT'S RIGHT! THIS CASTLE IS IMPREGNABLE! WE CAN WITHSTAND A THREE OR FOUR YEAR SIEGE!

WE WILL FORCE THE ENLIGHTENMENT CEREMONY! AND IF THE TOKUGAWA ARMY COMES IN RESPONSE, WE WILL DO BATTLE!



AND THE RETIRED SHOGUN IS 73 YEARS OLD! HE WILL NOT LIVE MUCH LONGER! AND LORD MATSUDOMARU TADATERU IS CONSIDERING DEPOSING THE SHOGUN AFTER THE RETIRED SHOGUN'S DEATH! IF WE HOLD OUT HERE, MATSUDOMARU TADATERU AND DATE MASAMUNE WILL BE ON OUR SIDE!



HOLD IT! THERE
ARE NO MORE THAN
RUMORS! DID THEY
SIGN AN AGREEMENT
SAYING THEY WOULD?



MY LORD, I SHALL
GO TO SUNPU WITH A
SCHOLAR ACCOMPANY-
ING ME, AND CLARIFY
THE PHRASE IN QUES-
TION AND CLEAR OUR
SUSPICION.



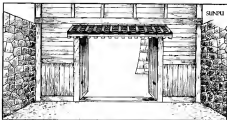
ALSO, WE WILL
NEED WAR FUNDS
TO HIRE RONIN AND
BUY RIFLES. YET WE
HAVE SPENT ALL
THAT MONEY ON
RESTORING HONO
TEMPLE.



YES,
MY LORD.

YES, THAT WILL
BE GOOD IF THE
SUSPICION CLEARS.
WE MAY BE ON TIME
FOR HIS EXCEL-
LENCY'S DEATH
ANNIVERSARY
ON THE 15TH.





SUNSHU



HUH?

THE RETIRED
SHOGUN WILL
NOT SEE YOU.



THE RETIRED
SHOGUN SAYS THAT
KATSURATO HAS
STILL NOT MAIN-
TAINED HIS PROMISE.
THERE WILL BE
NOTHING GAINED
IN SEEING HIM.



I UNDERSTAND
I SHALL RETURN
TO OSAKA AND
CLEARLY CONVEY
THE MESSAGE TO
LORD HIDEYORI
THIS TIME.

THERE IS ONLY ONE
WAY OSAKA AND EDO
CAN LIVE IN PEACE.
AND THE RETIRED
SHOGUN WILL NOT SEE
YOU IF IT CANNOT BE.



AS LONG AS LORD
HIDEYORI IS IN OSAKA
CASTLE, MALCON-
TENTS AND AMBITIOUS
FOLK WILL FORTIFY
THEMSELVES WITHIN
OSAKA CASTLE. THEN
HE WILL BE CHASING
AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM.



THE RETURN BECAME
A DEPRESSING JOURNEY
FOR KATSUMOTO. MOST
OF OSAKA CASTLE WAS
FILLED WITH MOA ADVO-
CATES. WOULD HE BE ABLE
TO CONVINCE LORD
HIDEYOSU AMIDST SUCH
AN ATMOSPHERE...?

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CHAPTER 49: THE CRUSHED CORNERSTONE













*SILENCE! DO NOT
TELL ME YOU DO NOT
KNOW HOW MANY
ROBIN HAVE ENTERED
OSAKA CASTLE IN
YOUR ABSENCE!*



*NOW THIS IS
RIDICULOUS!
HOW HAVE I
BETRAYED YOU?*

*WE HAVE BEEN FRANK ABOUT
OUR INTENTIONS BECAUSE WE
STILL CONSIDER THE TOYOTOMI
TO BE OUR CORNERSTONE, AND
BECAUSE OF OUR FRIENDLY
RELATIONS UP UNTIL NOW!
WE NEVER THOUGHT THAT
YOU WOULD REPAY US WITH
BETRAYAL.*



*YOU HAVE GONE TO AND
FROM SUNPU, SEEKING TO
JUSTIFY YOURSELF BEFORE
THE RETIRED SHOGUN IN
GOOD FAITH, WHEN IN TRUTH
YOU WERE MAKING US LOWER
OUR GUARD SO YOU COULD
BRING COUNTLESS PEOPLE
INTO THE CASTLE!*



THIS IS A MISUNDER-
STANDING! I SHALL
RETURN TO OSAKA AND
TAKE RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THIS SITUATION!

SUBUIC!
DO YOU STILL
INTEND ON
PLAYING
IGNORANT?



THE
RONIN HAVE
ENTERED
OSAKA
CASTLE!



NOT ONLY THAT, BUT
THE PRICE OF RICE
IN OSAKA HAS GONE
UP SUDDENLY, AS YOU
ARE TRYING TO BUY IT
ALL UP FOR SIEGE
RATIONS! AND YOU
TELL ME YOU KNOW
NOTHING OF THIS!

WE CANNOT SIMPLY
STAND BACK AND WATCH!
MESSENGERS HAVE BEEN
SENT TO SANADA OF MT.
KUDO, THE REMNANTS OF
THE CHOBOKASE, AND MORE
OF BUZEN KOKURA IN LORD
HIDEYORI'S NAME!



HANAHAI!





LISTEN WELL. NO SOONER HAD YOU LEFT FOR SUNPU THAN THE KEY WAS ORDERED TO BE GIVEN TO LORD HIDEYORI.



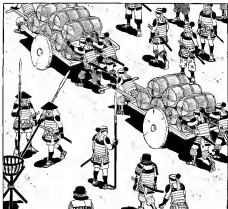
I WISHED, AS A FRIEND, THAT YOU WOULD GO TO SUNPU AND SETTLE THIS MATTER! YET YOU HAVE AVERTED OUR EYES TO SUNPU WHILE YOU BOUGHT UP RATIONS AND ARMS! YOU HAVE CLEARLY ATTEMPTED TO OUTWIT US!



DO YOU NOT UNDERSTAND THAT THOSE FUNDS HAVE BEEN USED TO RAISE THE PRICE OF RICE IN THE CITY AND ARM THE RONIN STATIONED IN THE CASTLE?



KATAGIRI KATSUMOTO WAS SO APPALLED THAT HE COULD NOT EVEN REPLY







WE SENT A CHOSOKABE
SPY AFTER KATSUNOTO
WHEN HE WENT TO SUMIJI.
BUT UNAWARE OF THAT,
KATSUNOTO WENT OUT OF
HIS WAY TO KIOTO, AND
MET WITH THE DEPUTY,
ITAKURA KATSUSHIGE.



NOT ONLY THAT, BUT KATSU-
NOTO SAID THAT WE HAVE EX-
HAUSTED THE TONYOMI CLAN'S
TREASURY IN THE RESTORATION
OF THE GREAT BUDDHA'S HALL,
BUT WHEN WE OPENED THE
VAULT, WE FOUND ENOUGH
GOLD TO MAINTAIN A SIEGE
FOR THREE YEARS!



IT IS NO TRIVIAL
MATTER THAT HE
SPOKE WITH THE
SHOGUNATE'S
STATESMAN BEFORE
REPORTING TO HIS
OWN LORD.



WHY WOULD
KATSUNOTO
LIE TO US?



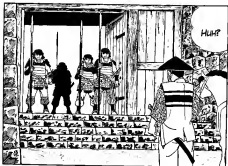
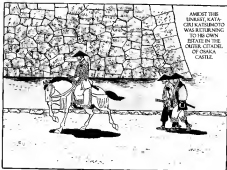
AND TO PROVE IT FURTHER, HE HAS GONE TO AND FROM SURUGU MANY TIMES. SETTING THE NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS ASIDE, HE HAS GONE THERE THREE TIMES IN THIS YEAR ALONE. I BELIEVE HE IS TRYING TO KEEP OSAKA FROM RAISING AN ARMY UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE, GIVING THE SHOGUNATE ENOUGH TIME TO PREPARE FOR WAR...



NOW THAT IT HAS COME TO THIS, WE MUST SLAY KATAGIRI KITSUMOTO.



AMONGST THIS
ENERGY, KATA-
GIRI KATSURIMOTO
WAS RETURNING
TO HIS OWN
ESTATE IN THE
OUTER CITADEL
OF ONAKA
CASTLE.







I SEE.
SO NO ONE
TRUSTS ME
ANYMORE.



BUT NO ONE
WILL BELIEVE
THOSE WORDS
ANYMORE.



SOON AFTER,
WARREN KATAGIRI
KATSUBOTO HAD
THREE HUNDRED
OF HIS CLANMEN
LIGHT THE FLIES
ON THEIR RIFLES,
AND LEFT OSAKA
CASTLE.

MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 49 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 50: THE WINTER SIEGE OF OSAKA

OCTOBER,
SENDAI





THE SHOGUNATE
ORDERED THE
LORDS OF THE
NORTHEAST TO
GATHER IN EDO



MARUMUNE
LEFT SENDAI
ON OCTOBER
10,



AND STORED BY
KATAMURA KOUJIRO
SHIROGIRI CASTLE
MIDWAY



YES.

MY LORD! IT IS WITH
DEEP REGRET THAT I
CANNOT GO WITH YOU.
THUS, I SHALL SEND MY
SON KOUJIRO SHIROGIRI
ALONG WITH YOU.





OH, IF I AM NOT
RELYING ON HIM,
BUT WE CANNOT
AFFORD TO
LEAVE HIM UN-
SUPERVISED.



YOU MUST
NOT RELY
ON LORD
TAKETERU'S
ARMY.



OH?
YOU SAY I AM
UNDERESTI-
MATING THE
RETIRED
SHOGUN?

BUT
THAT MANNER
OF THINKING IS
DANGEROUS!
YOU MUST NOT
UNDERESTIMATE
LORD IYASU
LIKE THIS!



HASEGURA TSUNENAGA IS
OVERSEAS, AND THE ECHOJO
ARMY IS ON YOUR HAND...
WHICH MEANS THAT LORD
IYASU IS SURE TO BE HAWY
OF YOU AND KEEP THEM
OFF THE VANGUARD.

YES, MY LORD.
THAT IS WHAT IS
WEIGHING DOWN ON
MY MIND MOST.





KATAKURA KOCURUO'S
VISION WAS INDEED KEEN
AS LONG AS MASAMUNE
HAD HIS PLAN. TADATERU
MUST NOT BE LEFT AT HIS
SIDE UNTIL HE KNEW HOW
FELICE HE WOULD ACT.

HOWARD...

INDEED,
AND WHATEVER
INVITATION YOU
RECEIVE FROM THE
TOKYODAI ALONG
THE WAY, YOU MUST
TURN THEM DOWN.

I SEE, I UNDERSTAND.
SO I MUST AGREE
TO EVERYTHING THE
RETIRED SHOGUN
SAYS FOR THE
WINTER SIDE.

BE
CAUTIOUS IN
EVERYTHING...

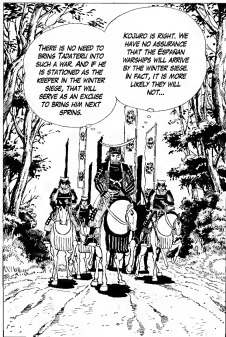
HAVE IT DO
NOT RELY ON
ESPARK...?

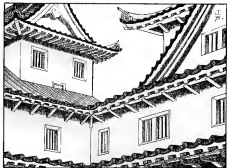
BE SURE YOU DO
NOT RELY TOO
MUCH ON THOSE
OVERSEAS.



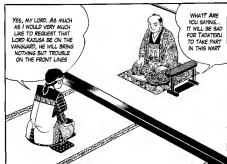
THERE IS NO NEED TO
BRING TADATERU INTO
SUCH A WAR. AND IF HE
IS STATIONED AS THE
KEEPER IN THE WINTER
SIEGE, THAT WILL
SERVE AS AN EXCUSE
TO BRING HIM NEXT
SPRING.

KOLURO IS RIGHT. WE
HAVE NO ASSURANCE
THAT THE ESPAGAN
WARSHIPS WILL ARRIVE
BY THE WINTER SIEGE.
IN FACT, IT IS MORE
LIKELY THEY WILL
NOT...















MASAMUNE
LEFT EDO ON
THE 28TH.

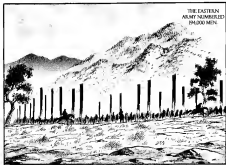


THE SHOGUN
HIDETADA
FOLLOWED
HIM WITH AN ARMY
OF FIFTY THOUSAND
ON THE 23RD.

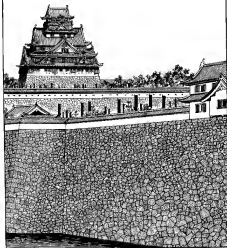
AND ENABLING
LEFT SUNPU
TWELVE
DAYS BEFORE
HIDETADA,
ON OCTOBER
1TH.



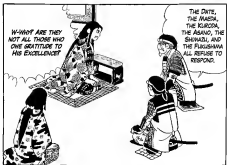
THE EASTERN
ARMY NUMBERED
15,000 MEN.



FACING THEM, THE
OSAKA ARMY HAD
OVER 19,600 FORTIFIED
IN OSAKA CASTLE.











AS HE IS HIS EXCELLENCE'S
CHILD, YOU HAVE INTERFERED
IN EVERY PART OF HIS LIFE,
DOWN TO HOLDING HIS CHOP-
STICKS FOR HIM, SO HE HAS
NEVER BEEN ABLE TO DO ANY-
THING HE WANTS. WHO WOULD
HOLD DEAR TO THEIR LIFE
WITH SUCH A MOTHER IN
THEIR SHADOW?



W-
WHATT
WHAT
DO YOU
MEANT



YOU HAVE
SHOWN OUR
LORD TOO MUCH
AFFECTION.



ARE YOU
SAYING
I RAISED
HIDEYOJI
WRONG?



WE CANNOT
HAVE OUR LORD
SLAIN. THUS
WE WILL SEEK
A PEACE CON-
FERENCE...

CAN ANY OF
YOU CHANGE
OUR LORD'S
MIND?



THE TRUTH
IS, WANG
HANZHEN
WAS MET WITH
DATE MASAMUNE AT
MUSASHI-SANNO IN
SHIMODA.



WHAT?
A PEACE
CONFERENCE?



IT WAS NOT A
SIMPLE REJECTION.
HANZA BROUGHT A
SECRET MESSAGE
ADDRESSED TO US.

BUT DID
NOT DATE
REFUSE
HIM?



A SECRET
MESSAGE
FROM DATE?



DATE SAID HE WILL WAIT
FOR THE RIGHT TIME AND
CONVINCE THE RETIRED
SHOGUN TO HOLD A PEACE
CONFERENCE, AND ASKED
US TO PERSUADE YOU
WHEN HE DOES... THEN
THE TOYOTOMI WILL
NOT BE CRUSHED.



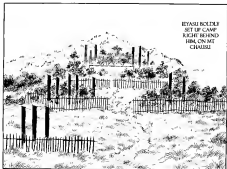


TOKUGAWA
FORCED COM-
PLETLY AB-
ANDONED
OSAKA
CASTLE

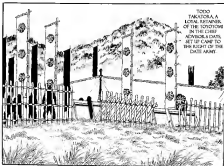


DATE MASAAMUNE
ENCAMPMENT WAS
BEHIND THE SOUTHERN
GATE AND MATSURA
MUNE-DATE, AS
MASAMUNE MOVED
FOR, AND HE STOOD
BY HIS SON MASAMUNE
AND GUARDED IT

ITYASI BOLDU
 SET UP CAMP
 RIGHT BEHIND
 HIM, ON MT
 CHAISI



TOZO
 TAKAFORA, A
 LOCAL EXPANER
 OF THE TOYOTOME
 IN THE CHIEF
 ADVOCATE'S CAMP,
 SET UP CAMP TO
 THE RIGHT OF THE
 CAMP ARMY.





AND TO THE
RIGHT OF THEM
STOOD BEASUS
CLANDSON
BOROM TADANAO
(SON OF YUKI
HIDEYASU) WHO
WAS ADOPTED BY
HIDEYOSHI AND
THE TOKUGAWA
GENERAL II
NAOTAKA.



HMM... THAT OLD MAN HASN'T
OVERLOOKED ANYTHING. THIS IS
A CLEVER ENOUGH DEPLOYMENT
THAT EVEN IF FELIPE II'S ARMY
COMES, THE DATE ARMY AND
HIDEYOSHI CAN BE TAKEN
HOSTAGE IMMEDIATELY.





YES. IT WAS YOU WHO SUGGESTED WE PURCHASE THESE CANNONS. OR DO YOU INTEND TO SAY YOU HAVE SUGGESTED THAT BOTH I AND HIDEYORI BUY THEM...IT IS WHAT HE SAID.



JUST THEN, MASAMUNE FELT LIKE HIS STOMACH WAS ABOUT TO RUDELY OVER.



WHAT? HE THINKS I SUGGESTED THAT TO ADD-FOREIT



WELL, THIS IS WAR, AND IN WAR, UNPREPAREDNESS IS OUR GREATEST ENEMY...

WHY WOULD L. SUGGEST THAT TO LORD HIDEYORI?



HAHAHA!

SILENCE, MASAMUNE! WHAT DOES THE RETIRED SHOGUN HAVE TO GAIN IN ASKING ME THAT? DOES HE PLAN ON SPOILING MASAMUNE WITH THESE FOOLISH QUESTIONS?



WINEHORI! WHY
DO YOU TELL ME
TO REST ASSURED
AND OBSERVE?



THESE CANNONS
WILL BE FIRED BETWEEN
LORD TODO AND LORD
ECHOZEN'S CAMPS, SO
YOU CAN REST ASSURED
AND OBSERVE THEM.



BECAUSE IF THOSE CANNONS
HAVE FALLEN INTO ENEMY
HANDS, THEY WILL RETURN FIRE.
AND IF THEY RETURN FIRE,
OUR CAMPS, ALONG WITH YOU
OBSERVING, WILL BE BLASTED
AWAY... BUT IF YOU DID NOT
CONVINCE LORD HIDEHORI TO
BUY THEM, YOU CAN REST
ASSURED AND SPECTATE
THE BATTLE.



SO, HE IS
GOING TO
LET ME SEE
THEM?



NO, I SUPPOSE
HE MUST BE
THIS CAUTIOUS
IN WAR...

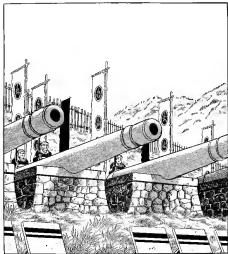
W-WHAT AIDACITY...
HE'S TAKEN ME
HOSTAGE TO SEE
IF THE ENEMY HAS
WEAPONS OF
SINULAR POWERY



YES,
WITH
EXCEPTIONAL
CARE.







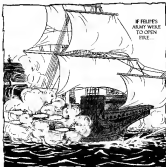








THE POWER
OF THE CANNONS
STARTLED NOT
ONLY LADY YODKO,
BUT ALSO THE
SOLDIERS STANDING
GUARD



IF THOSE
ARMY WERE
TO OPEN
FIRE...

IF THEY HAVE
ALREADY MADE
THESE, THEN
THE DAYS OF
FIGHTING IN
CASTLES ARE
OVER.











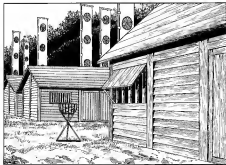


MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 50 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
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CHAPTER 51: THE NAKED CASTLE





THE MESSENGER
THAT OMURA SENT
TO THE PEACE
CONFERENCE
WAS KODORI
(LADY YODKO'S SISTER)



THE RETIRED
SHOGUN HAS
NOT A SHRED
OF HATRED FOR
LORD HIDEYORI.



OUR LORD'S
MOTHER AGREED
TO MAKE PEACE
IF YOU WILL
GUARANTEE LORD
HIDEYORI'S LIFE.



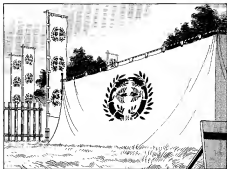
THUS, TO COMMEMORATE
THIS SECESS, HE WILL DIS-
MANTLE THE OUTSIDE OF
THE CASTLE AND FILL THE
MOAT, AS A SIGN THAT WAR
IN JAPAN IS NOW OVER...
AND THAT THE WORLD WILL
TRULY BE AT PEACE NOW.

HOWEVER, HE
CANNOT OTHERWISE
JUSTIFY WHY HE HAS
MOBILIZED SUCH A
LARGE ARMY.



1. NO EXCEPTIONAL PUNISHMENT WILL BE HELD FOR THE SOUVI THAT HAVE ENTERED THE CASTLE FOR THIS SIEGE.
2. HIDEYORI WILL MAINTAIN HIS EXISTING FMP.
3. LADY YORO DOES NOT NEED TO GO TO EDO AS A HOSTAGE.
4. IF OSAKA CASTLE CAPITULATES, ANY PROPOSAL HE DESIRES WILL BE OFFERED IN ITS PLACE.
5. HIDEYORI'S SOCIAL POSITION IS NOT TO BE DOUBLE-SIDED.











I AM DATE
MADAMINE! IS
TODO TAKAOKA
HERE??

HALT!
WHO GOES
THERE?



HELLO,
TODO.



OH,
LORD DATE!



I CANNOT SAY I
DON'T, BUT WHY
DO YOU ASK?

DO YOU
HAVE ANY
OBJECTIONS
TO THIS PEACE
CONFERENCE?



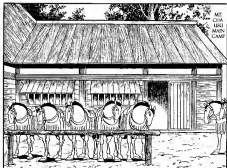




AND SO MASAMUNE
PERSUADED
THE LORDS
ONE AFTER
ANOTHER.



HE PERSUADED II
NAOTAKA, HACHIROKA
TOSHISIGE, MATSUOKA
TADANAO, ARIDA TOSHI
SUNE, IKEDA TADAKATSU,
MONDA TADAMASA... AND
EVENTUALLY THERE WERE
TWELVE IN NUMBER.











**WAIT!
SAY NO
MORE!**



**SO ARE YOU
SUGGESTING I BREAK MY
PROMISE TO HIS EXCELLENCE
AND SLAY LORD HIDEYORIS? THAT
ALONE MUST NOT HAPPEN!
EVEN IF THIS MAY MAKE
ENEMIES OF YOU ALL,
I REFUSE TO HEAR
OF THIS!**



**AND TO THINK
THAT A MAN SUCH AS
DATE WOULD GATHER
CAT'S-PAWS FOR SUCH A
SHALLOW THING! DID YOU
EXPECT ME TO CHANGE
MY MIND IF YOU ALL
GATHERED HERE?**





IT WOULD BE FAR TOO SIMPLE FOR ME TO DESTROY THE TOYOTOMI NOW. BUT THAT WOULD MEAN BREAKING ALL MY PROMISES TO HIS EXCELLENCE AND MAKING ME UNLUST. A VICTORY WON BY STRENGTH ALONE IS NO TRUE VICTORY.



I MUST SPARE LORD HIDEYORI NOW. BUT IF LORD HIDEYORI FORGETS HIS DEBT TO ME AND ACTS UNLUKELY, THAT IN ITSELF WILL HASTEN HIS OWN DOWNFALL.

WE MUST NOT LEAVE ANY BITTERNESS. ONLY BY MAKING THEM SUBMIT AND SERVE YOU WHOLEHEARTEDLY CAN YOU BE A TRUE RULER, AND ONLY THEN CAN A PEACEFUL WORLD CONTRIVE.



THE LORDS WERE COMPLETELY CONVINCED BY ISHIDA.





I AM
GRATEFUL
FOR YOUR
HARD
WORK.



HIDEKIHI'S
HUNDRED THOUSAND
KOWI HAS BEEN
GRANTED BY NAGO
CASTLE, ALONG WITH
THE INVESTITURE
OF THE IMPERIAL
COURT.



OH?
AND
WHY?

BY THE WAY,
THOUGH YOU MAY
BE RETURNING TO
SUAMI FROM NAGO
CASTLE, I WILL
REMAIN IN OSAKA.



I HAVE DISCUSSED THIS
THOUGHT WITH HONDA
KOSUKE-KO-SUKE,
BUT I WANT TO USE
THIS CHANCE TO MAKE
OSAKA CASTLE A
NAKED CASTLE.



H-HHEY!
LOWER
YOUR
VOICE!

WHETHER IT BE
LORD HIDEYORI OR
HIS EXCELLENCE, NO
ONE WOULD CONSIDER
TREASON FROM A
NAKED CASTLE!







THE MOUNT
OF OSAKA
CASTLE WAS
FILLED.









THEN I WILL STAND TO
INTERVENE, AND SET UP
MATSUURA TADATERU,
THE LEADER OF THE
CHRISTIANS, AS SHOGUN,
AND HAVE HIDEYADA
RETIRE TO SUNPU AFTER
MOMOI'S DEATH.



I DON'T GIVE A
DARN ABOUT THESE
PETTY CLAN STRIFES
WITHIN JAPAN!

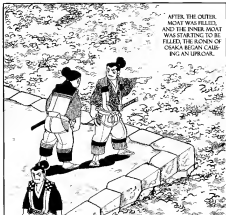
I WILL THEN STAND BEHIND
THE NEW SHOGUN AND SPREAD
OUR TRADE ROUTES WITH
ESPAIN AND PORTUGAL, AND
TIE SUNPU TO INDIA AND
OLANDA, FREEING US TO ALL
THE OCEANS OF THE WORLD.



IT WAS A PLAN
OF EXTREME
GREATNESS.

I WILL
BECOME
DATE OF THE
WORLD!

AFTER THE OUTER
MOAT WAS FILLED,
AND THE INNER MOAT
WAS STARTING TO BE
FILLED, THE RONIN OF
OSAKA BEGAN CAUS-
ING AN UPRISAR.



THREATING CONFRONTA-
TIONS BEGAN
OCCURRING
BETWEEN THE
RONIN AND
THE TOKU-
GAWA RET-
AINERS.



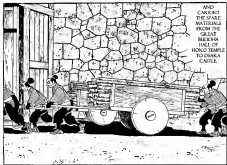
AS HE WATCHED THIS,
MASAMUNE CALMLY
BEGAN TO WITHDRAW
AS HE TOOK POSITIONS SO
HE COULD TURN BACK
WHenever HE NEEDED,
HE THOUGHT...



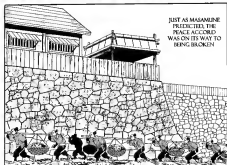
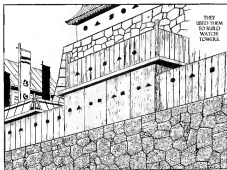
I WONDER
WHERE HASEKURA
TSUNENAGA'S SHIP
IS SAILING NOW.

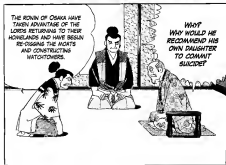


AS THE TOKUGAWA
WITHDREW, THE
BONIN OF OMURA
BEGAN TO ACT
BUSTLE. THEY
NEEDING THE MOLE.



AND
CARRIED THE SPARE
MATERIALS FROM THE
GREAT
BUDEN
HALL OF
HOKO TEMPLE
TO OMURA
CASTLE.







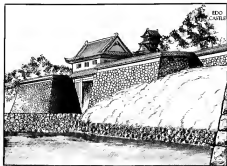


MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 51 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 52: THE SUMMER SIEGE OF OSAKA





SO THE PEACE
AGREED FELL
THROUGH

OH, LORD MASAMUNE I
AM SORRY TO ASK YOU
DO THIS SO SOON AFTER
YOUR RETURN, BUT WE
MUST GO TO WAR AGAIN.



PRECISELY.
FATHER WAS
TOO LENIENT
IN THIS.

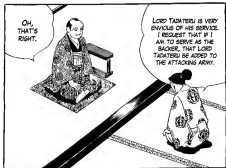


I DID NOT EXPECT
THE ROBIN TO
LEAVE THE CASTLE
THEY HAD BITTEN
INTO.

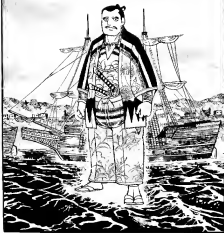


YES.

BY THE WAY, LORD
MITSUDOMARI YOSHINO
SERVED EXCEPTIONALLY
WELL IN THE WINTER
SIEGE OF OSAKA, AND
THE RETIRED SHOGUN
CONSIDERS HIM IN
HIGH REGARD.



MEANWHILE, HASEKURA TSUNENAGA
HAD GONE FROM MEXICO TO THE
ATLANTIC OCEAN, TO SPAIN'S
HOMETOWN OF SEVILLA, TO THE
CAPITAL OF MADRID, ENDURING
EVERY HARDSHIP POSSIBLE TO
RECEIVE AN AUDIENCE WITH
AN IRRITATED FELIPE III.





MY EL
FATHER
BELIEVES
IT WILL
TAKE UNTIL
THE END OF
MAY...



KOJURO
SHIMETSUNA,
HOW LONG DO
YOU EXPECT THIS
WAR TO LAST?



WHY? WHY DO
YOU THINK IT
MUST BE OVER
SOONER?



BUT I DO NOT
BELIEVE WE
NEED TO TAKE
THAT LONG.





MEANWHILE, TADATORU'S
ARMY HAD BEEN DIVIDED
INTO TWO AND WENT
AHEAD OF THE DATE
ARMY, AND HAD ALREADY
APPROACHED NAGORA.



THAT DAY, TADATORU
WAS LOOK-
ING IN A
PRIVATE
HOUSE.







NOW, NOW.
THIS IS JUST
A MATTER OF
THE TIMES.

BUT WE ARE
NOT CERTAIN THAT
THE SHOGUN WILL
BE LODGING THERE!
WHY NOT LET HIS
BROTHER STAY IN
HIS STEAD?



WHY?
NOT TO
MAKE
HASTE?



MORE
IMPORTANTLY, A
MESSENGER FROM
DATE HAS JUST
ARRIVED. HE SAYS
NOT TO MAKE
HASTE.



YOU ARE
DEALING WITH
THIS LIKE A
MINOR LORD,
MY LORD.

HOW COULD I BE
FIRST TO ARRIVE
WITHOUT MAKING
HASTE? I MUST
BE FIRST TO
ARRIVE!



IT IS PRECISELY
BECAUSE YOU ARE
HIS BROTHER THAT
YOU MUST TRAVEL
WITH EXCEPTIONAL
LEISURE AND
DIGNITY.



WHAT? I AM MAKING
HASTE FOR MY FATHER AND
BROTHER, BECAUSE THIS IS
A TIME OF URGENCY! I AM
THE SHOGUN'S BROTHER,
AND THE DATE IS OUR
RETAINER... WHY MUST
I NEED THE WORD OF
A RETAINER?



NO! WHAT IF I AM
LATER THAN MY
YOUNGER BROTHER?
PEOPLE WILL SAY
THAT I AM AFRAID
OF WAR BECAUSE
MY BROTHER WAS
A FUGITIVE!



NO! WHAT-
EVER ANYONE
SAYS, I WILL
MAKE HASTE!

YOU ARE A PRECIOUS
PERSON WHO MUST
SUCCEED THE SHOGUN'S
SHAME AT ONCE, WERE
HE TO BE SLAIN IN
BATTLE.



YOU ARE TOO YOUNG,
MY LORD. AND BESIDES,
THE BROTHER OF A
GREAT MAN DOES NOT
ARRIVE FIRST, HAVING
HIS SPEAR. THAT IS
WHAT RONIN DO.



IT IS PRECISELY
BECAUSE YOU
ARE TOO HASTY
THAT THE BUSY-
BODIES ALONG
THE ROAD ARE
SAVING YOUR
UPBRINGING IS
TO BLAME.



BESIDES,
I CANNOT
STAND EVERYONE
TREATING ME
LIKE A CHILD!



INDEED, BUT IF YOU
ACT SIMPLER, YOU WILL
INSTEAD SURPRISE THE
BUSYBODIES. AND
BESIDES, THE RETIRED
SHOGUN IS OLD. IF YOU
WAKE HASTE, PEOPLE WILL
BEGIN TO SUSPECT THAT
SOMETHING HAPPENED
TO HIM ALONG THE
WAY...



WHAT? MY
UPBRINGING
IS TO
BLAME?



YES.
PEOPLE WILL
BEGIN TO WONDER
WHETHER THE
RETIRED SHOGUN
COLLAPSED OF
ILLNESS...



SO IF
I WAKE
HASTE...



"ENRAGE THEM AND MAKE
THEM FIGHT". THERE ARE A
GOOD NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THIS
WORLD WHO WOULD MAKE SUCH
PLOTS. MAKING TWO PEOPLE
FIGHT, EXASPERATING THEM, AND
SLAYING YOUR TARGET AMIDST THE
STRIFE WAS ONE OF THE BASIC
METHODS OF ASSASSINATION IN
THE AGE OF THE WARRING STATES.



ESPECIALLY SINCE
NAGASAKA NOBUTOKI,
THE ONE WHO BARRED
YOU FROM LOOKING
AT THE TEMPLES,
WAS THE BROTHER OF
NAGASAKA CHIHARU
KURO, A MATCHLESS
SUPPORTER OF THE
SHOGUN.

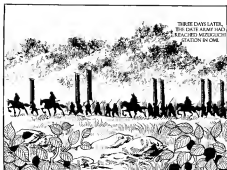


I SEE. SO HE WAS
CHIHARU'S BROTHER...
NOW I UNDERSTAND.
HE IS TRYING TO PICK A
FIGHT WITH ME, FOR HE
SCORNS MY PLEBEIAN
BIRTH.



THIS IS MOST
AMUSING. THEN I
SHALL HAVE DATE,
WHO TREATS ME AS
A CHILD, SHOW ME
HIS WISDOM.

THREE DAYS LATER,
THE DATE ARMY HAD
REACHED MEGUROUCHI
STATION IN ONE







IT HAPPENED
WHEN I WENT TO
TELL HIM OF YOUR
ORDER NOT TO
MAKE HASTE.



AND HE
MUST HAVE
HAD A REASON
TO SLAY THE
RETAINER.



THAT RETAINER HAD
SHUT HIM OUT OF TWO
TEMPLES, SAYING THE
SHOGUN MIGHT LODGE THERE.
LORD TADATERU ARGUED
WITH HIM TO CONVINCE
HIM TO GIVE HIM ONE.



BUT THE NEXT
DAY, AS LORD
KAZUO HEN-GUKE
WAS LEAVING, THEY
HAPPENED ACROSS
THOSE RETAINERS,
AND STARTED
A DISPUTE.



THEN LORD
TADAOKI'S
RETAINERS
LEAPED TO-
WARDS THE
SHOGUNS.



NAKAGAKI
HOSHIOKI
RAN INTO
THE FRAY
AND
CALLED
THEM
DOWN



HOWEVER, THEY
CLAIMED THAT
NIGHT HERE
AT MIZUKUCHI
STATION, THOUGH
I KNOW NOT
WHO STARTED
IT



THEN
THEY SAW
FOUR OR
FIVE OF THE
SHOCKING
RETAINERS.



IT WAS LORD
KAZERA NO-
SUKE WHO
KNEW SIR
NAGAMASA.







MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 52 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 53: IRIS OF THE SIXTH DAY







OH, IS THAT IT...? THEN YOU NEED NOT WORRY. ONCE WE LEAVE NICO CASTLE, THE SHOGUN WILL BE TRAVELLING WITH ME. I WILL BE CONSTANTLY BY HIS SIDE, SO HE CANNOT LAY A HAND ON YOU. WELF STILL TOO AL AT EASE TO ACT?

AS THINGS ARE NOW, I WILL NOT KNOW WHERE THE BALLETS WILL COME FROM. ON THE BATTLEFIELD WILL THEY BE AIMED AT US OR AT THE SHOGUN ARMY, WILL THEY BE FROM OUR FRIENDS OR FROM OUR FOES, AND WERE WE APPOINTED AS THE VANGUARD WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THAT?



I NEVER SAID I COULD NOT ACT! I HAVE COME TO ASK YOU FOR FREEDOM TO ACT! WHATEVER THE CASE, THE DATE SOLDIERS ARE LIVING BEINGS. IF ANYONE FIRES UPON US FROM WHATEVER SIDE, WE MUST RETURN FIRE WITH NO MERCY AND FEELS CHARGED! I HAVE COME TO ASK IF THAT IS WELL WITH YOU!

YES, IT IS WELL. FRIENDLY FIRE DOES HAPPEN FROM TIME TO TIME IN BATTLE.

THOSE WHO WOULD DARE
ASSAULT ME IN MY OWN
LODSGE IN ARIKUNOCHI WOULD
NATURALLY GO AFTER
KAZUSHIHO-SHUN FASTERLY
AND FASTERLY WOULD FLY
INTO A FURY AND SLAY HIS
OPPONENT, OF COURSE NOT
KNOWING THAT HE WAS A
VASSAL SINCE THE DAYS
OF MIKASA. AND NOW
WE HAVE AN EXCUSE.



YES! IT'S A
SUCCESS...



I AM NOT ONE TO DISTINGUISH
BETWEEN FRIENDLY FIRE DUE
TO THE CHAOS OF BATTLE AND
FRIENDLY FIRE PLANNED DUE
TO MALICE IF, BY CHANCE,
SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN.
I WILL PERSONALLY JUDGE THEM,
SO PROCEED AT YOUR HEART'S
CONTENT.



WHAT
MIGHT
THAT
BE?



BY THE WAY, I
WOULD LIKE TO
ASK YOU SOME-
THING THIS
TIME...



TRUTH IS, SINCE I ARRIVED
AT NAGO CASTLE, WE HAVE
CAPTURED TWO OR THREE
SUSPICIOUS FOLK. ONE OF
THEM WAS A PADRE, AND
ANOTHER WAS A SERVANT
OF ONO HARUFUSA, WHO
WAS TRYING TO BURN ARIOTO
TO THE GROUND...











AND HE TOLD ME
WHAT HE SAID WAS A
SECRET HE HEARD FROM
SOTELO, BUT IT ENDED
UP BEING A WHOPPER
BIG ENOUGH TO MAKE
ME BLINK IN SURPRISE!



EXACTLY. THUS HE SAID
THAT FELIPE II'S ARMADA
WOULD DOMINATE THE SEA,
SO DATE MASAHUNE,
KAZUSA-NO-SURE, AND
HIDEYORI WOULD BE
HOLDING OUT AND WAITING
FOR THEIR ARRIVAL.







SO YOU
ARE SURE
THEY WILL
NOT...?

HAHAHAHA! THEY SAY
THAT DROWNING MEN
GRASP FOR STRAWS.
I AM SURE THERE
ARE MANY WITHIN
OSAKA CASTLE THAT
BELIEVE KING
FELIPE'S ARNADA
WILL COME.



THE
CURRENT
CONDITIONS
OF ESPANA



THE DEPUTY ITAKURA INQUIRED
WITH A RED-HAIR FROM AN
ENGLISH TRADING COMPANY, AND
IT SEEMS THAT THE BARBARIAN
PIONEERS HAVE BEEN AWAY
FROM THEIR HOMELAND SO
LONG THEY KNOW NOT OF
THE CURRENT CONDITIONS
OF ESPANA.



CONDITIONS HAVE
CHANGED IN JAPAN AS
WELL. HIS EXCELLENCE'S
RULE HAS PASSED TO ME,
AND I HAVE RETIRED AND
LORD HIRITADA HAS
BECOME SHOGUN. IT
IS THE SAME WITH
THAT COUNTRY.



THEY MAY
HAVE BEEN
THE RIGHTIST
UNDER THE RULE
OF FELIPE II,
BUT THEY ARE
ON THE WANE
UNDER THE
THIRD.









DAMN! OR COULD
IYASHI HAVE KNOWN
OF FELIPE II'S
CAPABILITIES TO
BEGIN WITH...?



THIS CANNOT BE.
THE ESPARAN ARMADA IS
A PHANTOM ARMADA... SO
DEEP DOWN, I, TOO, WAS
RELYING ON A PHANTOM
FLEET...?



TO THINK I
WOULD BE
TRIPLED
WITH SO.











THE RETIRED SHOGUN MUST HAVE GROWN CLOSE WITH ISUZU AND OLANDA BECAUSE HE FORESAW IT... A DREAM... YES, I HAVE REALIZED THAT WE HAVE BEEN DRAWING EMPTY DREAMS IN THE SAND WITHOUT REALIZING IT.



LORD KADISA, SOTELAT'S SHIP WILL NOT MAKE IT ON TIME. HASEKURA MAY NOT EVEN COME BACK. WE CANNOT USE THEM TO SAVE LORD HIDEYORI; IN FACT, THE ESPARAN ARMADA WAS A PHANTOM.

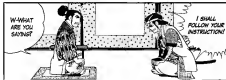


HMM...

THIS, I AM HESITATING BETWEEN ASSAULTING NIOO CASTLE TONIGHT AND GOING STRAIGHT TO NARA... THAT IS ALL.



I HAVE FORBIDDEN YOU FROM SETTING SAIL OVERSEAS BECAUSE OF THE RETIRED SHOGUN'S ORDERS, BUT NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THAT FORBIDDANCE MAY BE THE ONLY REASON YOU ARE SAFE AND SOUND. IT WAS MY OWN THINKING THAT WAS NAIVE.



I SHALL FOLLOW YOUR INSTRUCTIONS!



I FEAR NO FOE, WHETHER IN NIJO CASTLE OR YAMATO ROAD!



OH! I THINK IT IS
A MATTER OF THEIR
WAYS OF THINKING.
THE SHOGUN IS MORE
WARY AND COWARDLY,
AND YOUR FATHER
IS RELATIVELY
STOUT-HEARTED.



BUT MY FATHER
INSISTS THAT HE
MUST SLAY HIM.
DOES NOT A MAN
SUCH AS YOU FIND
THAT STRANGE?

THEN I SHALL
TELL YOU I PAID A
VISIT TO MY BROTHER
IN FUSHIMI. MY
BROTHER DOES NOT
SEE WHY HE MUST
SLAY HIDEYORI AT
ALL COSTS.



THAT MY FATHER
HAS BEEN LENIENT
TOWARDS THE
TOYOTOMI UP UNTIL
NOW, AND STILL
INTENDS TO SPARE
THEM...

THERE IS
A DIFFERENT
RUMOR AMONG
MY BROTHERS'
RETAINERS.



NO,
NO,
NO!







I HAD NO
WAY OF
KNOWING!

THAT LORD
HIDEYORY IS
THE RETIRED
SHOGUN'S
SON...



THOUGH ALL PEOPLE
CAN BE CERTAIN OF
WHO THEIR MOTHER
IS, THEY CANNOT BE
CERTAIN OF WHO
THEIR FATHER IS. I
KNOW NOT EVEN
WHERE AND HOW I
CAME TO BE...



THAT IS
JUST TOO
SURPRIS-
ING...

BUT IF HE IS HIS
FATHER, HE CANNOT
SLAY HIS OWN SON! NO,
HE MUST NOT LET HIM
BE A PITIFUL SON THAT
LIVES OR DIES AT HIS
FATHER'S WHIM!



WHETHER OR NOT IT IS
SURPRISING, I ALONE WILL
LIVE TO TAKE HUMAN LIVES
OUT OF RIGHTOUSNESS! I
WILL REAP, REAP, AND REAP
THEM ALL! NOW YOU KNOW
WHY I WILL ALLY WITH YOU!

BUT THIS IS A
DOUBT THAT IS
SIMPLY TOO
UNBESIEGABLE.

HEYASU MAY
HAVE BEEN
TOO PRO-
TECTIVE OF
HIDEYORI.



MASAMUNE HAD NEVER
SEEN SUCH INTENSE NEHEMISM.

AND THE THOUGHT OF HIDEYORI
BEING HEYASU'S SON WAS SUCH
AN UNTHINKABLE DELUSION.



SO YOU
REALLY HEARD
SUCH A RUMOR
IN FUSHIMI...?







IS THE RETIRED
SHOGUN STILL
SAYING THAT?



THE RETIRED SHOGUN
SAID YOU ARE HIS CHILD,
AND WHAT FATHER WOULD
KILL HIS OWN CHILD...
AND LORD MATSUDAIRA
WILL GLADLY ACCEPT
YOU AT THE CASTLE ON
MT. KORY! PLEASE,
I BEG YOU!



YES. THERE IS
NO OTHER WAY OF
SAVING YOU. IF YOU
WILL SURRENDER
OSAKA CASTLE
AND MOVE TO MT.
KORY CASTLE, THE
TOYOTOMI WILL
BE SPARED.



DO YOU ALSO
THINK I AM
THE RETIRED
SHOGUN'S
SON, NUNT?



WHEN HE SAID
THAT YOU WERE
HIS SON... HIS
EYES WERE FULL
OF TEARS...



VERY WELL.
GIVE UP ALL
HOPE ON ME
TRANSFER-
RING TO
YAMATO.



I AM SURE
HE MEANS THAT
HE GAVE YOU
SENHIME'S HAND
BECAUSE HE
THINKS OF YOU
AS A SON.





INDEED, LADY YODO WAS A FLOUNDERING MANAGER, SITTING THE COURT ABOUT THREE METERS AWAY FROM EVERYONE KNOW ABOUT HER. ELIATEDNESS WITH ONO HATSUNADA, THERE WERE THINGS WHEN SHE WOULD SUMMON HER FROM THE SCENE INTO THE CABLE.





SAY NO MORE.
I DO NOT WISH
TO HEAR IT.



THE WORLD
THINKS OF ME AS
A PUPPET IN MY
MOTHER'S HANDS...
BUT THAT PUPPET
SUFFERS, TOO.



THEN STAND DOWN AT ONCE.
THE ROMAN ARE NOT THE
ONLY ONES WITH NO PLACE
TO GO. IF I LEAVE THIS
CASTLE, I WILL BE SAYING I
FEEL NO ATTACHMENT TO MY
LATE FATHER'S CASTLE... AND
ABASE MY MOTHER FURTHER.



MY
LORD!





THE BRIGHT RED
SKY OVER SAKAI COULD
BE SEEN FROM OSAKA
CASTLE. ON APRIL 28 OF
KEICHO YEAR 20 (1615)
WAS THE FIRST CLASH
OF THE SUMMER SIEGE
OF OSAKA.



MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 53 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
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平へい和わ戦せん略りやくのの巻まき

DATE FAMILY crest

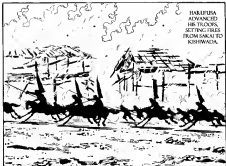


CHAPTER 54: THE BEACH OF DOMYO TEMPLE



THE SUMMER
SIEGE OF OSAKA
BEGAN WHEN
ONO HARUFUSA'S
FORCES SET FIRE
TO MT. KORI

HARUFUSA
ADVANCED
HIS TROOPS,
SETTING FIRES
FROM SAKAI TO
KISHIWADA.

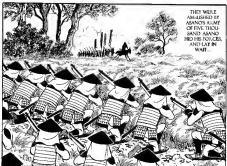


GREAT SAMURAI
GENERALS SUCH AS
SAN DAIEMON
AND MURAKI
KANEU JOINED HIM
MIDWAY, AND
THEIR NUMBERS
ROSE TO TWENTY
THOUSAND.



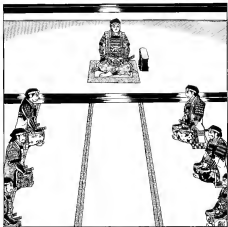


IT WAS BEN
QUINTARON
WHO SERVED
AS THE VAN
GUARD FOR
THE OSAGAN
ARMY.



THEY WERE
AMBUSHED BY
ABAND'S ALLY
OF FIVE THOU-
SAND. ABAND
LED HIS FORCES,
AND LAY IN
WAIT...









SAKADA YŪSAKURA,
WHAT DO YOU THINK
OF GORO MATASU'S
OPINION?



BUT FORTUNATELY,
THE ENEMY'S MAIN
FORCES ARE TRAVEL-
LING ALONG YAMATO
ROAD, SO I THINK IT
BEST IF WE AMBUSH
THEM IN THE RAVINE,
THUS DEFEATING
THEIR VANGUARD.



I FEEL THE SAME.
I BELIEVE WE
SHOULD WAIT FOR
THEM AT DOMYO
TEMPLE, ABOUT
FIVE RI (32KM)
FROM ŌSAKA
CASTLE...



I SEE.

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS MAP.
THIS WHOLE REGION IS A
MOUNTAIN RANGE SPANNING
MT. IKOMA, MT. KATSURAGI,
AND MT. KONO. ALL THE ROADS
THROUGH HERE HAVE TO GO OVER
THE MOUNTAINS.



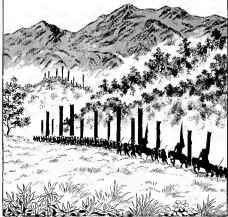
AND SO IT WAS
DECIDED THAT
THE ARMY WOULD
GO TO DOMINO
TEMPLE, WITH
GOTO MATABE AS
THE VANGUARD
AND SANADA,
YUKIMURA AS THE
REARGUARD

BUT WHEN KURODA,
NAGAMASA'S GENERA-
TION CAME, MATABE
FOUND HIMSELF FRE-
QUENTLY DISAGREEING
WITH NAGAMASA, SO
HE CUT HIS TIES AND
ABANDONED THE
KURODA CLAN TO
LIVE AS A RONIN

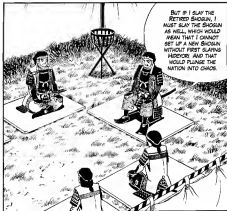


GOTO MATABE
MOTOTSUGU WAS
FORMERLY A RETAINER
OF KURODA JOSIE, AND
HIS BRAVERY AND SKILL
IN BATTLE WERE WELL-
REPUTED. FOR THIS
REASON, JOSIE PROVIDED
HIM WITH A FIF OF
THIRTY THOUSAND
KOKU, LARGE ENOUGH
TO BE A LORD'S FIF

MEANWHILE, THE FIRST COMPANY OF THE EASTERN ARMY WAS PASSING THROUGH YAMATO ROAD TO IDOMIYU TEMPLE. THE FIRST COMPANY WAS MIZUNO KATSUNARI'S ARMY OF THREE THOUSAND. THE SECOND COMPANY WAS HONDA TADAMASA'S ARMY OF FIVE THOUSAND. THE THIRD COMPANY WAS MATSUJIMA TADAOKI'S ARMY OF THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED. THE FOURTH COMPANY WAS DATE MASAMUNE'S ARMY OF TEN THOUSAND. AND THE FIFTH COMPANY WAS MATSUJIMA TADATERU'S ARMY OF TWELVE THOUSAND.







BUT IF I SLAY THE
RETIRED SHOGUN, I
MUST SLAY THE SHOGUN
AS WELL, WHICH WOULD
MEAN THAT I CANNOT
SET UP A NEW SHOGUN
WITHOUT FIRST SLAYING
HIDEYORI. AND THAT
WOULD PLUNGE THE
NATION INTO CHAOS.



AND IF SOMETHING WERE TO
HAPPEN TO THE SHOGUN IN
THIS WAR, TADATERI WOULD
NATURALLY INHERIT THE SEAT
OF SHOGUN. THERE IS NO NEED
TO PLOT TREASON. I AM NOT
SUCH A FOOL AS TO MAKE AN
ENEMY OF ALL OF JAPAN.



THIS I MUST
QUENCH THIS
RUMOR.

BUT SO LONG AS I
AM BURDENED BY
THIS RUMOR, THE
SHOGUNATE WILL
TRY TO CRUSH THE
DATE ONCE THIS
WAR IS OVER.



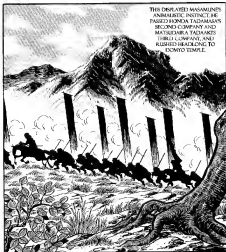
I MUST MAKE
AN ACHIEVEMENT
GREAT ENOUGH
TO STARTLE THE
OTHER LORDS,
AND PROVE MY
LOYALTY.

BUT HOW
WILL YOU DO
THAT?



BUT
I MUST NOT
SIMPLY PROVE MY
LOYALTY! I MUST
IMPRESS ON THEM
THE TERROR OF
THE DATE ARMY!





THIS DISPLAYED MAGAMUNE'S
ANIMALISTIC INSTINCT. HE
PASSED KUNIDA TADAMASA'S
SECOND COMPANY AND
MATSUOKURA TADAOKI'S
THIRD COMPANY, AND
RUSHED HEADLONG TO
DOJOYO TEMPLE.

MT. KOMATSU





YES,
MY
LORD!



WE WILL LET
THEM CLIMB UP
AND ONCE THEY
DO, WE WILL FIRE
UPON THEM FROM
BOTH SIDES.



ALRIGHT,
MEN! SPLIT
INTO TWO
GROUPS, AND
HIDE AT THE
FOOT!



MASAMUNE'S
MEN SPLIT INTO
TWO GROUPS
AND HID AT
THE FOOT OF
THE MOUNTAIN.



MASAMUNE'S
INTUITION WAS
SPOT ON. THAT
NIGHT, GOTO
MATABE ARRIVED
WITH AN ARMY OF
TWO THOUSAND
EIGHT HUNDRED.



AND HE
BEGAN
CLIMBING
ME
KOMAGI
FROM THE
WESTERN
FACE.

MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 54 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
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CHAPTER 55: MATABE'S BATTLE





YES, THAT
MUST BE THE
FIRST COMPANY
OF KANTO.

GENERAL, I CAN
SEE STANDARDS
TO THE EAST.



**NOW!
ATTACK!**



IF WE
STRIKE THEM
DOWN, WE WILL
STOP THE REST
OF THE EASTERN
ARMY IN THEIR
TRACKS!



IN AN
INSTANT, THE
WHOLE AREA
BECAME A
REALM OF
GUNSHOTS,
WAR, CRIES,
AND SCREAMS













BUT GORO
MUTANE WAS
KNOWN AS
A BRUCE
GENERAL
FOR GOOD
REASON.



HE RE-
TREATED
WHEN THEY
CHARGED—
AND HE
CHARGED
WHEN THEY
RETRACTED.



IT IS SAID THAT
EVEN TO
EIGHTY HOUR-
MEN FELL AT
HIS OWN
HANDS.



IT IS WRITTEN THAT
THE WARRIORS OF
THE TIME HAD
NEVER SEEN VALOR
LIKE MATASE NOW
DISPLAYING NOW



IF THE SHINODA AND
MORI FOLLOWING
HIM HAD ARRIVED
ON TIME, THERE IS
NO TELLING HOW
THE WAR, WOULD
HAVE CHANGED









IT IS WRITTEN IN
THE "KITAGAWA
MEMOIR" THAT
HIZAKURIGI
CURED AND
CURED.



WRAPPING
HIS HEAD IN
HIS BATTLE
SURCOAT,
AND BURYING
IT IN THE
FIELD

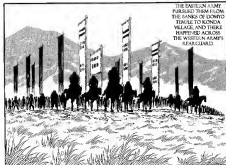


NEEDLESS TO
SAY, HIS HEAD
WAS DISCOVERED
BY THE
DAIJI ARMY

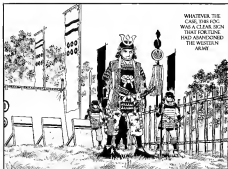
NATANE'S
DEATH
CAUSED THE
WESTERN
ARMY TO
CRUMBLE.



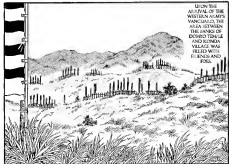
THE EASTERN ARMY
PURSUED THEM FROM
THE BANKS OF IDONTO
TIBBLE TO KONDA
VILLAGE, AND THERE
HAPPENED ACROSS
THE WESTERN ARMY'S
REAR GUARD.





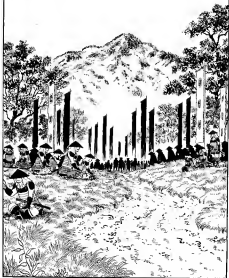


WHATEVER THE
CASE, THIS HONOR
WAS A CLEAR SIGN
THAT FORTUNE
HAD ABANDONED
THE WESTERN
ARMY.



UPON THE
ARRIVAL OF THE
WESTERN ARMY'S
VANGUARD, THE
AREA BETWEEN
THE RANGES OF
DOHIO TOWER
AND KODOMA
VILLAGE WAS
FILLED WITH
GUARDS AND
FOES.

BUT MATSUJIMA TADATERU WAS
ADVANCING WHIMSICALLY, AND HIS
ARMY OF TWELVE THOUSAND STOPPED
TO REST IN NARA. HE DID NOT EVEN
ARRIVE ON THE BATTLEFIELD BY NOON

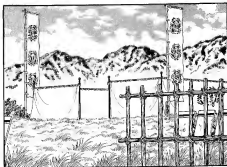


MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
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CHAPTER 56: SANADA'S WAR CHRONICLES







THE DATE ARMY BOLDLY
CHALLENGED THE SAMURAI
ARMY. THEY CHARGED TO-
WARDS THE SAMURAI ARMY,
AS KATAGUNA SCOUTS
MOUNTED RIFLE COMPANY
FIRED THEIR GUNS.



BUT THE
SAMURAI
ARMY LAY
LOW TO
AVOID THE
GUNSHOTS.



AND
COUNTER-
ATTACKED
WITH A LINE
OF SPEARS



IT BECAME
AN INTENSE
BATTLE,
WITH HEAVY
CASUALTIES
ON BOTH
SIDES.



BOTH THE ARMY
OF THE GREAT
KATAMURA OF THE
DATE AND THE ARMY
OF SANADA FIGHT
WITH DESPERATE
RAGE. NOT A
SINGLE MAN WAS
LEFT UNHARMED.



KATAMURA
KOSURO HAD
NO CHOICE BUT
TO HAVE THE
CONCH BELLS
BLOW TO SIGNAL
RETREAT.



THE SAMURAI
ARMY DID NOT
HESITATE TO
PURSUE THEM.



ALRIGHT,
RIFLE SQUAD,
STEP FOR-
WARD!



SMALL
WONDER THEY
ARE SAMURAI'S
ELITES

MY LORD! THE
SAMURAI ARMY IS
CHARGING RIGHT
FOR THE MAIN
CAMP!











IT IS SAID
THAT THERE
WERE ONLY
FOUR OR FIVE
SURVIVORS
OF THE THIRD
ARMY



THE DATE ARMY
PROCEEDED TO
CHARGE INTO THE
SAMURA ARMY BUT
NATURALLY, THIS
BECAME A PROBLEM









CHOSOKABE OF
YACUCHI HAS BATTERED
HIS REMAINING FORCES,
SO WE ARE TO WITHDRAW
IMMEDIATELY. THIS IS
LORD HIDEYORI'S ORDER.



YES,
MY
LORD!



I SEE. UNDER-
STOOD. TELL
HIM THAT WE
WILL WITHDRAW
AS SOON AS
WE HAVE THE
CHANCE.



YOU ALL
HEARD HIM! WE
MUST FALL BACK
FROM HERE!

YOU ARE RIGHT.
IF, BY CHANCE, WE ARE
PURSUED BY MATSUDAIRA
TADATERU'S FRESH
FORCES, IT WOULD BE A
DISASTER. IT WOULD BE
WISE TO OBSERVE THE
SITUATION BEFORE
WE WITHDRAW.

IT WOULD BE A DISASTER
IF HE WERE TO PURSUE US.
THAN, I BELIEVE IT BEST
TO STAY HERE UNTIL
SUNDOWN, AND SEE HOW
MATSUDAIRA TADATERU'S
ARMY WILL ACT. WHAT
DO YOU ALL THINK?

BUT THERE IS
ONE THING THAT
WORRIES ME. THERE
IS ONE FOE THAT HAS
YET TO SHOW HIMSELF
ON THIS BATTLEFIELD,
MORE OTHER THAN
MATSUDAIRA
TADATERU.



AND SO,
YUKIMURA
OBSERVED
MATSUDAIRA
TADATERU'S
ARMY OF
ECHOES FOR
SOME TIME.



IF ANYTHING WERE TO
HAPPEN TO THE SHOGUN,
TADATSUMI WOULD
BECOME THE NEXT
SHOGUN... THAT IT IS
SAID THAT MASAMUNE
PREVENTED TADATSUMI
FROM PARTICIPATING
IN ANY DANGEROUS
BATTLES.

BUT FOR
WHATEVER
REASON, THE
ECHOED ARMY
SHOWED NO SIGN
OF MOVING.



CONFIDENT THAT THE
ECHOED ARMY SHOWED NO
SIGNS OF MOVING, YUSUMURA
LEGIBLYLY WITHDREW TO MT
CHAMURE. HAD THE ECHOED
ARMY PURSUED THEM THEN,
THE FORCES OF OSAKA MAY
HAVE BEEN WIPE OUT.



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YURUMURA
HUMBLY
CHARGED
STRAIGHT
TOWARDS
ETASU'S
MAIN CAMP.



SANADA'S
SUICIDE CORPS
LED A FRIGHT-
FUL CHARGE,
BREAKING
THE LINES OF
DEFENSE
ONE AFTER
ANOTHER.

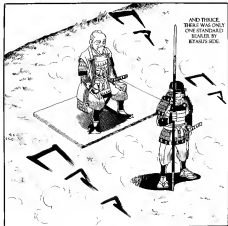


FINALLY, EVEN
THE GUARD
SOLDIERS AND
PEASANTS PRO-
TECTING ETASU
WERE FORCED
TO DEFEND HIM.





BOTH
KILLED
AND
INJURED
WERE
PREPARED
FOR
DEATH.



AND THERE
THERE WAS ONLY
ONE STANDSTILL
BEARER BY
REAR'S SIDE.



BUT IN THE
MEANTIME, MY
CHILDREN FELL TO
MATSUDAIRA
TADANAO OF
ECHOZEN



AT THIS
TIME, NOT
A SINGLE
RETAINER
WAS ACCOMPANYING
YOSHIMURA.



HAS IT
FALLING?



NOW IT IS
ALL OVER.





MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 56 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 57: DOWNFALL OF THE TOYOTOMI CLAN









I BELIEVE IDOYU
WANTED TO AVOID
WAR WITH OSAKA
BECAUSE IT WOULD
CAUSE A MAJOR
PROBLEM IN THE
NATIONAL ADMIN-
ISTRATION.



FIRST, I WOULD DISPOSE OF DATE,
WHO IS RUMORED TO BE A TRAITOR
AND WHO WAS HIDING CHRISTIANS...
THEN MATSUDARA TADATERU, WHO
DID NOTHING. THEN FUGUSHIMA
MASANORI, WHO WAS RUMORED TO
HAVE SNUCK PROVISIONS TO OSAKA...
THAT WOULD PROVIDE ME WITH MORE
THAN ENOUGH LAND FOR REWARDS.



HOW WOULD
I DEAL WITH
IT, IF I WERE
IDOYU?



THERE IS,
JUST ONE.



IS THERE ANY
OTHER WAY...?



AND BY CAUSING AN IMPRESSION LIKE THAT, HE WILL ONLY HAVE TO GIVE OUT HALF OF THE REWARD, AND THE LORDS' TRUST IN HIM WOULD RISE. THEN HE WILL NOT HAVE TO DISPOSE OF ANY LORDS.

AND THAT IS TO LEAVE HIDEYORI ALIVE. EVEN IF HE MAKES HIM TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WAR AND HALVES HIS FUP, HE WILL STILL BE KEEPING HIS PROMISE TO HIS EXCELLENCE.



NOW, WHICH ONE WILL IYASU CHOOSE?

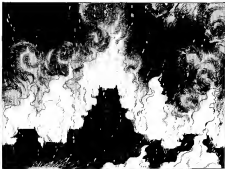


I WANT YOU TO CHECK ON THE RETIRED SHOGUN'S EVERY MOVE, AND REPORT THEM TO ME!

YES, MY LORD!



ISHIDA SHOGUN!













DO YOU
EXPECT ME
TO BELIEVE THE
RETIRED SHOGUN
WOULD FEAR
ME OVER
THAT?



YES,
MY
LORD!

KOJURO, TAKE
THIS SUSPICIOUS
SKOOPHANT OUT
OF MY SIGHT!



NOW, IT
ALL HINGES
ON HOW REYASH
WILL ACT... I WILL
NOT SIMPLY LET
REYASH BURY ME!









HAVE
YOU FOUND
THE CAUSE
OF THE
GUN-
SHOTS?







W-WHAT?
HIDEYORI
COMMITTED
SUICIDE?



SO THEY SET
FIRE TO THE
GRANARY, AND
ALL COMMITTED
SUICIDE!



HIDEYORI HAS
COMMITTED
SUICIDE...



EVEN IF THEY HAD
NOT, TOKUGAWA'S
VASSALS DID NOT
TAKE KINDLY TO THE
NOTION OF SAVING
HIDEYORI, SO THEY
FIRED UPON THEM
FOR AMUSEMENT.



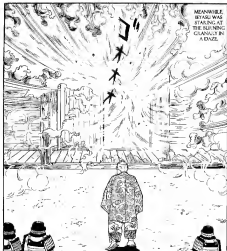
I SEE.

THE RETIRED
SHOGUN IS
HEADING FOR
THE GRANARY
WHERE HIDEYORI
COMMITTED
SUICIDE.



THAT THROWS THE
RETIRED SHOGUN'S
VISION AND HIS
CALCULATIONS OUT
THE WINDOW!





MEANWHILE
RYUGU WAS
STARRING AT
THE BURNING
CLASH IN
A DAZE.



HIS FACE NOW A DEEP
MIXTURE OF GRIEF
AND ANGER!!







YES, NOW THAT HE KNOWS ABOUT HASEKURA AND TADATERU IS NOW UNDER SUSPICION, THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

SO WILL THE DATE CLAN BE CRUSHED?



THE DATE AND ECHIGO HAVE A COMBINED FORCE OF TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND. AND WHO CAN TELL HOW MUCH GREATER IT WOULD BE IF THE REMNANTS OF THE TOYOTOMI JOINED US...



WE COULD DISPLAY OUR POWER AND THREATEN HIM...



IS THERE NO OTHER WAY?



BUT THE DATE CLAN COULD ONLY EXIST WHILE LORD HIDEYORI SURVIVED AND LORD TADATERU WAS SAFE. NOW THAT BOTH OF THEM HAVE BEEN LOST, WE MUST BEGIN SEEKING A PLACE FOR US TO DIE...



IF WE ARE READY
FOR DEATH, THE
FLAMES WILL
SEEM COOL.

SHALL WE ATTACK NIOO
CASTLE? OR SHALL WE
SURROUND FUSHIMI AND DIE
DREAMING OF AKESHI? OR
SHALL WE RETURN TO EDO
IN PEACE FOR NOW, AND
DROWN THE WHOLE CITY OF
EDO IN A SEA OF FIRE?

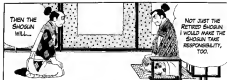


IN THAT CASE, HIDE-
YUNE WOULD LIGHT
FLAMES IN URAJIMA...
AND YOUR FATHER
KOURU KAGETSUNA
WOULD LIGHT FLAMES
IN SENDAI. THEN THE
NATION WILL ONCE
MORE BE IN CHAOS.



YOU WOULD
MAKE THE
RETIRED
SHOGUN
FALL ON HIS
SWORD?

I CAN THINK OF MANY
MORE IDEAS. WE COULD
SAY THAT KILLING LORD
HIDEYORI AND BREAKING HIS
PROMISE TO HIS EXCEL-
LENCE IS INEXCUSABLE, AND
MAKE HIM FALL ON HIS
SWORD TO APOLOGIZE...

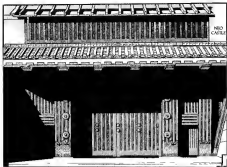


MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 57 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 58: A HERO KNOWS A HERO









BECAUSE DATE,
LORD OF A 620,000-
KOKU PRF, IS LOST
IN THOUGHT, TRYING
TO DECIDE WHETHER
OR NOT HE SHOULD
COMMIT TREASON!
HAHAHA!



GOOD!

T-THEN LET
ME SHOW YOU
TO HIM.



HOW COULD
HE REST WHEN
MEN LIKE YOU
ARE THINKING OF
REBELLION?



OH! SO A
MAN AS GREAT
AS THE RETIRED
SHOGUN COULD
NOT REST

THE RETIRED
SHOGUN HAS
SHOWN NO
SIGN OF
SLEEPING
ALL NIGHT.









SO ARE YOU
SAYING THAT
I AM PLANNING
TO COMMIT
TREASON?

THEY SAY THAT THE
DATE ARMY PLANS TO
WITHDRAW TO EDO,
THEN SURROUND THE
CITY AND BURN IT TO
THE GROUND. THE
HASTY ONES ARE
ALREADY PREPARING
TO FLEE THE CITY.



AKESHI TURNED AGAINST
ODA OUT OF FEAR, AND
THAT IS WHY HIS RULE
DID NOT LAST MORE THAN
THREE DAYS. BUT THIS
IS DIFFERENT. DATE HAS
TURNED AGAINST TORIYAWA
OUT OF DISAPPOINTMENT.
THUS, THE DATE WILL WIN.

I LET HIDEYORI AND HIS
MOTHER DIE, AND ON TOP OF
THAT, MY OWN SON TADATERU
HAS TURNED AGAINST ME...
SUCH AN IYASU AND SHOGUN
CANNOT MAINTAIN THIS LAND,
AND SO DATE IS FURIOUS.
THIS REBELLION IS OF A
DIFFERENT NATURE THAN
AKESHI'S...



WHO
COULD HAVE
STARTED SUCH
A RUMOR...?







INDEED, IT IS
MASAMUNE.

AGAIN, MY LORD...
IS IT NOT DATE
MASAMUNE WHO
IS REBELLING?



IS THAT WRONG? I
BELIEVE SPEAKING
TO MASAMUNE
IS THE GREATEST
SHORTCUT TO
DEALING WITH
MASAMUNE. MY
CALCULATIONS
CANNOT GO
WRONG THIS
WAY.



THEN WHY ARE
YOU SPEAKING
TO MASAMUNE
ABOUT SUP-
PRESSING HIM?



IF, IN YOUR EYES, THE TOKUSAWA DO
NOT HAVE THE POWER TO RULE THE
NATION... THEN STRIKE ME DOWN. I
WILL RAISE NO OBJECTIONS. ONLY
DATE MASAMUNE CAN TAKE MY
PLACE. I WILL BELIEVE THAT MY
JUDGMENT WAS CORRECT, AND I
WILL NOT STRUGGLE IN VAIN.



THIS
IS OUR
TRUTH.





HOW CAN I BRING
TRANQUILITY TO THE
NATION WITH THESE
UNWORTHY HANDS
THAT COULD NOT EVEN
SAVE HIDEYORI AND
HIS MOTHER? I HAVE
JUDGED THE CAPACITY OF
SEYASU, SO I WILL LEAVE
MAGAMINE'S REBELLION
TO MAGAMINE.



THERE ARE PLenty OF WAYS
TO STRIKE DOWN HIBETADA
YOU COULD MEET WITH HIM
ON HIS WAY BACK TO THE
CASTLE OF FUSHIMI, AND
MAKE HIM COMMIT SUICIDE
TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR
KILLING HIDEYORI AND HIS
MOTHER, AND BREAKING
MY PROMISE TO HIS
EXCELLENCE...



YOU SHOULD
BE MORE THAN
WISE ENOUGH TO
DEAL WITH THE
AFTERMATH.



DATE, I HAVE NEVER ONCE
THOUGHT OF STEALING THE NATION. I
BELIEVED THAT THE PEOPLE'S DESIRE
WAS FOR PEACE, SO I HAVE FEARED
RULERSHIP AND HESITATED TO TAKE
RULERSHIP, AND HAVE INTENDED
TO LIVE AN HONEST LIFE.





I SEE.
SO YOU HAVE
DEALT WITH
THE REBEL.



YOU SHOULD PAY
ATTENTION TO
BRINGING THE
WORLD TO PEACE
RATHER THAN
BEING DISTRACTED
BY TRIVIAL
MATTERS.



I SEE.
THAT IS
GOOD
NEWS.

THAT GOES
WITHOUT
SAYING! I
HAVE CUT
HIM CLEAN
IN TWO
MYSELF!



I SEE. SO
YOU HAVE
DEALT WITH
HIM YOUR-
SELF.

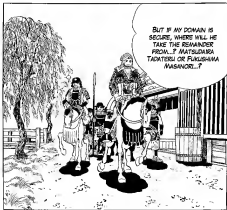


IF EVEN YOU WOULD
QUESTION YOUR RIGHT TO
RULE THE NATION, WHY
WOULD THE GODS GIVE THE
PEOPLE TO ME? I HAVE
PREPARED TO ACCEPT
MY DESTINY.



SINCE I HAVE
DEALT WITH HIM,
IT IS TIME NOW
TO SETTLE THE
AFTERMATH OF
THE WAR.





MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 58 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
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CHAPTER 59: A HEART OF GOVERNMENT



THEN ASANO
MADAMURA OF
KOSHI, FOR WINNING
OUT THE OLIMPIAN
VANGUARD LED BY
SAN DANSHON

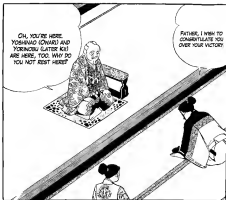


THE FIRST
SERVICE HE PERFORMED
WAS TAKENAO OF
EDISON, FOR
DEFEATING THE
SANDRA AT ME.
CHAMBI



ABOUT
THAT TIME,
MATSUOKA
TAKETERU
APPEARED
AT NIO
CASTLE





OH, YOU'RE HERE.
YOSHINAO (OWARD) AND
YORINORI (LATER KAI)
ARE HERE, TOO. WHY DO
YOU NOT REST HERE?

FATHER, I WISH TO
CONGRATULATE YOU
OVER YOUR VICTORY.



FATHER!



OH, YOU WISH TO
WORK IN THAT CASE.
I AM REPAIRING THE
ROADS IN THE OSAKA
AREA. YOU CAN SO
HELP THEM.



REST... YOU SAY ARE
YOU SUGGESTING THAT
YOU HAVE NO WORK TO
TRUST ME WITH?



NO, IT IS NOT!
THE REPAIR OF THE
ROADS IN THE OSAKA
AREA IS A JOB TO
IMPOSE ON THE LORDS
THAT WERE LATE TO THE
BATTLEFIELD! IS THAT
NOT, THEN, A FORM
OF PUNISHMENT?



WHAT? IS
THAT NOT
ENOUGH?



I WISH TO BE
IN CHARGE OF
INSPECTING THE
GOLD AND SILVER
OF OSAKA
CASTLE!



OH?
YOU
KNOW
THAT?



WHAT IS
TANTERU
THINKING,
BRINGING UP
GOLD AND
SILVER AT
SUCH A TIME
AS THIS...



IS THAT SO?
YOU WILL NOT
TRUST ME
WITH IT?

I HAVE ALREADY
ARRANGED WITH THE
SHOGUN TO APPOINT
GOTO MITSUOSAKU
IN CHARGE OF THE
GOLD AND SILVER.



OH, YOU
CALCULATED IT?
SO HOW MUCH
REMAINED?

DO YOU THINK I
WILL SWEEZE IT LIKE
ONLDO NAGASAKI DID? I
ALREADY KNOW HOW MUCH
GOLD AND SILVER THE
OSAKANS HAVE



BUT I CAN
DO THIS JOB
PROMPTLY!

BUT THE
SHOGUN AND I
HAVE ALREADY
AGREED ON THIS.



I BELIEVE THEY HAD
THIRTY THOUSAND
PIECES OF GOLD,
AND TWENTY-FIVE
THOUSAND
PIECES OF SILVER
REMAINING.



HUH...?

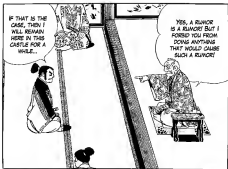
IF YOU WENT
TO INVESTIGATE
THE GOLD AND
SILVER, PEOPLE
WOULD MISUN-
DERSTAND!



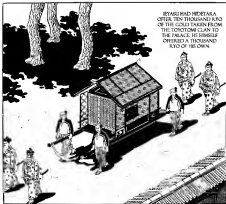
SILENCE!
YOU MUST
ABSTAIN FROM
DOING ANYTHING
TO CONFUSE
THE SHOGUN!







BEYASU HAD HIDEATAKA
OFFER TEN THOUSAND RYO
OF THE GOLD TAKEN FROM
THE TOROTOMI CLAN TO
THE PALACE. HE HIMSELF
OFFERED A THOUSAND
RYO OF HIS OWN.



HE WANTED TO TEACH
HIS AMBITIOUS SON TO
RESPECT THE IMPERIAL
COURT, AND GIVE
HIM A CHANCE FOR
A PROMOTION OF
COURT RANK.

THE NEXT DAY,
HE DECIDED
TO VISIT THE
PALACE WITH
TADA-TERU.







WHAT? IS
HE ILL?



HE HAS
GONE FISHING
IN THE
RIVER.



YES,
WELL...

WHAT'S GOING
ON? IS TADATELJI
NOT HERE YET?
I TOLD HIM TO
ACCOMPANY
ME TO THE
PALACE.



YES, MY LORD. HE
SAID HE COULD NOT
BEAR BEING WITH
HIS FATHER WHO
LOATHED HIM, SO
HE WENT FISHING.



WHAT?
FISHING?



IS
THAT HOW
TADATELJI
TOOK WHAT
I SAID?



W-WHAT? A
FATHER WHO
LOATHES HIM...?





AFTERWARDS,
 IYASU BEGAN CRE-
 ATING ORDINANCES
 OF ALL KINDS TO
 KEEP THE WORLD
 FROM FALLING INTO
 CHAOS AFTER HIS
 DEATH: THE LAW OF
 LORDS, THE THIR-
 TEEN ARTICLES, THE
 LAW OF THE COURT
 AND NOBILITY, THE
 LAW OF PREDESTINING
 HEAD TEMPLES...



IYASU
 SHOWED EACH
 OF THE DRAFTS TO
 MASAMUNE, AND
 ASKED IF THEY
 WERE GOOD OR
 BAD...

AS MASAMUNE
READ THIS, HE
BEGAN TO
UNDERSTAND
THE HEART OF
GOVERNMENT.



*THE NATION
IS NOT FOR THE
NATION, NOR IS
IT FOR ONE MAN.*

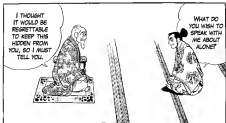
THIS WAS THE FIRST
ARTICLE IN BEYASU'S HUNDRED
ARTICLES. HE WROTE, FIRST
OF ALL, THAT GOVERNMENT
IS NOT FOR THE PURPOSE OF
GLORIFYING ONE'S ANCESTORS
OR MAKING ONE'S DESCEN-
DANTS PROSPER, BUT FOR
ENSURING THE PEACE AND
PROSPERITY OF THE
CITIZENS.

THOSE SO CONCEITED IN
THEIR MILITARY MIGHT THAT
THEY IGNORE THE AUTHORITY
OF THE THRONE ARE NOT
TO DISRUPT THE ORDER OF
HEAVEN AND EARTH, OF MASTER
AND SERVANT. THE DUTY OF
A NATION IS TO ENSURE THE
PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF THE
PEOPLE, NOT TO GLORIFY YOUR
ANCESTORS AND MAKE YOUR
DESCENDANTS PROSPER. KNOW
THAT THE VIRTUES OF TANG AND
WU OUGHT TO BE BORD IN
YOUR HEART*



*TANG AND WU = REFERS TO KING TANG OF SHANG AND KING WU OF ZHOU
(BOTH OF WHOM TOOK THE THRONE BY DEFEATING THEIR MASTERS)









SO, YOU
THOUGHT
IT OVER...

TO APOLOGIZE TO
HIS EXCELLENCE...
NO, TO APOLOGIZE
TO THE COURT, I
WILL EXILE HIM
FROM TAKADA
UPON HIS RETURN
TO EDO.



I WILL NOT CHANGE
HIS RANK OR HIS
DOMAIN. I WILL
SIMPLY CONFINED
HIM. I WILL ORDER
HIM TO RETIRE
TO FUKAYA IN
MUSASHI.

SO
WHERE
WILL
YOU
BANISH
HIM
TO...?



THAT'S RIGHT. IF I
DO NOT DO THIS, I
WOULD STOOPE TO
BEING A POOL FROM
WHOM STRANGERS
SEEK GUIDANCE. I
AM AFRAID OF THE
EYES OF THE NEXT
GENERATION.



YES, MY
LORD.

I AM SORRY.
BUT THIS IS FOR
THE SAKE OF
ESTABLISHING A
TRANQUIL WORLD.

THAT IS WHY I
MUST HAVE YOU
TAKE CHARGE OF
ROHSHIME.

MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 59 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
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CHAPTER 60: FIVE CLAUSES OF THE WILL

ON JULY 13,
THIS YEAR WAS
DECLARED THE
FIRST YEAR OF
THE GENNA
ERA (MS).



HAVING
DEALT WITH
THE AFTERMATH
OF THE WAR,
THE SHOGUN
HIDETADA
RETURNED TO
EDO ON JULY 19



MASAMUNE LEFT
KYOTO FOR EDO
FIVE DAYS AFTER
HIDETADA, ON
JULY 24



BUT HOW AM I
SUPPOSED TO LIVE
FROM NOW ON?

THE NATION
IS AT PEACE
FOR NOW.



BUT CAN I KEEP
FOLLOWING THE
SHOGUN HIDETADA...?
IN MY EYES, HIDETADA
IS TOO SMALL.

I CAN
CREDENTLY
FOLLOW THE
RETIRED
SHOGUN...



WHAT
IS IT?



LORD YASU
MUNEORI IS
HERE TO SEE
YOU.



REPORT-
ING IN!







THE RUMOR IS THAT
THE ARMY LED BY
LORD KAZUSA-NO-
SUKE TADATERU
IS GOING TO JOIN
WITH THE DATE ARMY
AND BURN EDO TO
THE GROUND...



WHAT KIND
OF RUMOR
IS GOING
AROUND?

NO. IT IS TOLD
WITH UTMOST
SINCERITY IN
EDO, AND THE
TOWNSFOLK
HAVE BEGUN
TO FLEE.



YES, I HAVE HEARD
OF THAT RUMOR
FROM THE RETIRED
SHOGUN. HAS IT
NOT GONE AWAY
YET?



NOT ONLY THAT,
BUT THE SHOGUN'S
OFFICERS ARE
SEETHING WITH
ANGER, AND DO
NOT BELIEVE IT
TO BE A MERE
RUMOR.



WHAT? THE
TOWNSFOLK
HAVE BEGUN
TO FLEE?



HMM... TADATERU
MUST HAVE GIVEN
THE RUMOR SO MUCH
AUTHENTICITY IN AN
ATTEMPT TO THREATEN
THE SHOGUN.







AS FLOMBERS, NAGA-
MUNE REORGANIZED
HIS ARMY FROM THE
REPUBLICAN EDO
TO PASS THROUGH
SENDAI.



WHILE
HE HIMSELF
WENT TO
EDO CASTLE
ALONE.















ALL PEOPLE
ARE MADE OF
A BODY, AND A
MIND INSIDE
OF THEM.

YOU ARE SAYING
SOMETHING VERY
STORAGE. WHAT
ARE YOU SAYING
IS MINE, AND
WHAT ARE YOU
SAYING IS
LENT?



NOTICED
WHAT...?



YOU DO NOT
YET KNOW THE
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN WHAT
IS YOURS AND
WHAT IS LENT
BY THE
HEAVENS.



YES. AND EVENTU-
ALLY, YOU REALIZE
THAT YOUR MIND IS
ALL THAT BELONGS
TO YOU, AND YOUR
BODY IS LENT AND
FRAGILE.



A BODY
AND A
MIND...?



BUT THE SAME DOES NOT
GO FOR THE BODY. BASED
ON HOW IT IS USED, IT CAN
BREAK DOWN AFTER TEN
YEARS, OR IT CAN LAST
FOR FIFTY OR SIXTY YEARS.
BUT IT WILL NOT LAST FOR
HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS
OF YEARS.

SINCE YOUR MIND IS
YOURS, IT CAN LIVE ON FOR
HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS OF
YEARS IF IT IS TRAINED WELL,
LIKE SACRAMINI AND LIKE
THE FOUNDER OF THE
GRAND SHRINE...



I SEE. SO THAT
IS WHY YOU SAY
THE MIND IS
YOURS AND THE
BODY IS LENT.

MY MIND HAS BEEN
FILLED WITH THE DESIRE
TO SEND YOU OUT INTO
THE WORLD, SO I HAVE
BEEN OVERLAPPING MY
BODY SINCE WHEN THE
WORLD WAS AT WAR.
AND WITH OVERUSE,
THE BODY WILL
BREAK DOWN.



THE ROUGHER I AM ON
THIS LENT BODY, THE SOONER IT
WILL BREAK DOWN... BUT I DID
NOT REALIZE THAT THIS BODY
WAS LENT, SO I WOULD
CHARGE STRAIGHT INTO
ANY ENEMY I FACED.



BUT MY MIND IS SATISFIED WITH
THIS, FOR YOU HAVE SAFELY MADE
YOUR WAY THROUGH THESE WARS..
THAT WAS MY WISH AND MY HOPE..
AND WITH MY WISH FULFILLED, I
HAVE NO REGRETS..



IN ALL
HONESTY, I FIND
IT STRANGE THAT
MY BODY HAS NOT
BEEN RECLAIMED
YET, IN THE FORM
OF BEING SLAIN
IN BATTLE..







I SEE SO HE
WENT AFTER
THE MOSKAL.

THEY MAY BE
ABOLISHED, FOR THE
REASON THAT THEY
CANNOT KEEP THEIR
CLAN IN ORDER...
BUT IN FACT, THEIR
DOMAIN WILL BE
USED TO FILL THE
REMAINS FROM
OSAKA.



THE FOURTH
REGARDS YOUR
CONCUBINE OF
A DIFFERENT
EYE COLOR.



AND THE
FOURTH...?



I SEE. AS LONG
AS AYASHI IS MY
CONCUBINE, I
WILL BE SEEN AS
HAVING TIES TO
THE BARBARIANS,
AND BE SUSPECTED
OF REBELLION.



SHE IS THE ONLY
BARBARIAN LEFT
IN THE NATION.
SOCIETY'S EYES
WILL BE ON HER.



MY FINAL CONCERN IS REGARDING
HASEKURA TSUNENAGA. TSUNENAGA IS FAR
FROM HIS HOMELAND, AND DOES NOT YET
KNOW THAT PEACE HAS COME TO JAPAN.
HE STILL CONSIDERS HIS ORDERS YOUR
LIFELINE, AND MAY RETURN FILLED WITH
THE DESIRE FOR BATTLE. IF, PERCHANCE,
HE FALLS INTO THE HANDS OF THE LORDS
OF THE TOKUGAWA CLAN...



NOW THAT HE MENTIONED THEM, MASAMUNE REALIZED THAT THESE WERE ALL GRAVE MATTERS THAT THE DATE CLAN HAD TO DEAL WITH IF THEY WERE TO LIVE IN A PEACEFUL WORLD.



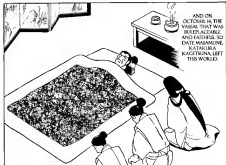
KOJURO, I HAVE ALREADY THOUGHT ABOUT TOKUNAGA. ALL SHIPS COMING FROM EUROPE STOP BY LUGON. I WILL SEND AN ENVOY TO LUGON AND EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO HIM.



NOW THAT I HAVE HEARD THAT, I CAN RETURN THIS BODY TO THE EARTH WITH A SMILE.

I WILL DEAL WITH THE OTHER MATTERS WITH RASTE.





AND ON OCTOBER 14, THE VASSAL THAT WAS UNFLINCHING AND FAITHFUL TO DATE MASAMUNE, KATAKURA KAGEHISA, LEFT THIS WORLD.



WHEN HE HEARD THE NEWS, HE HID HIS SORROW AND SAID, "HE IS NOT DEAD. HE HAS SIMPLY RETURNED THE BODY THAT WAS LENT TO HIM."

MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 60 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 61: THE CITIZENS' RESPONSE





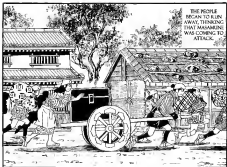




MASA-
MUNE LEFT
SENDAI
IN A HURRY.



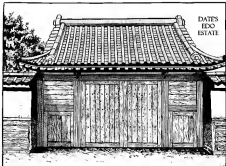
BUT THE
VERY WORDS
"MATSAMUNE IS
COMING" SENT
THE CITY OF
EDO INTO
CONFUSION.



THE PEOPLE
BEGAN TO RUN
AWAY, THINKING
THAT MARMORE
WAS COMING TO
ATTACK.



AND THE
VASSALS AND
LORDS HELD
THEIR BREATH
AND KEPT A
CLOSE EYE ON
THE DATE
ARMY.



DATES
EDO
ESTATE





I CANNOT
HAVE THIS UPROAR
OCCUR EVERY TIME
I COME TO EDO.



EVEN IF MY
INTENTION IS TO AID
JEXAMU OR HIETADA,
WITH SO MUCH CAU-
TION AROUND ME, I
WILL BE TRAPPED
EVENTUALLY.



THIS MAY
CAUSE ME TO
LOSE MY CLAN.









AFTER ALL,
IN THIS WORLD,
EVERY EFFECT
HAS A CAUSE.



THE SECOND
IS THAT THERE
ARE SIGNS THAT
SOMEONE IS
SPREADING
THESE RUMORS.



INDEED! IT WAS LORD
KAZUSHIHO-SHIRO
THAT SPREAD THE
FIRST RUMOR, AND
THIS RUMOR SEEMS
TO BE CAUSED BY
DOJ OHNO-KANE.

OH? I CANNOT
IGNORE THIS. SO
BOTH TIMES THAT
THESE RUMORS HAVE
BEEN SPREAD ABOUT
ME, THEY WERE
INTENTIONAL?



YES, DOJ OHNO-KANE IS ONE
OF THE GREATEST TACTICIANS
OF THIS GENERATION. AND A NEW
TACTICIAN IS ALWAYS ON HIS
GUARD AGAINST OLD TACTICIANS.
THAT'S WHY HE STARTED SPREADING
THIS RUMOR TO SEE WHAT THE
CITIZENS WERE THINKING.



WHAT?
YOU MEAN
LORD DOJ
TOSHIMATSU?



HAH...

SO THE
CITIZENS ALL
FEEL THE SAME...
AND THE RESULT
IS THIS RUMOR.



THEY ARE PRECISELY
RIGHT. NO ONE
WOULD BE ABLE TO
PLOT A REBELLION
BUT ME AND MORE.



SO, YOU
THINK THE
SAME AS
WELL?

HEHEHE...
SO I SUPPOSE
THE CITIZENS'
HEARTS CANNOT
BE DECEIVED. IF
ANYONE WOULD
REBEL, IT WOULD
BE DATE.



HAHAHA! YOU
ARE A SHREWD
FELLOW, LORD
DATE!



BUT I MUST THINK
OF WHAT I SHOULD
DO TO CLEAR THIS
SUSPICION. I WAS
THINKING OF TAKING
A SHORTCUT AND
ASKING YOU.



THEN I
SHALL GIVE
MY OPINION.

I WOULD NOT ASK
ANYONE ELSE, YASUJI. IF
THE RETIRED SHOGUN WERE
TO PASS AWAY, THEN YOU
AND LORD POI TOSHIKATSU
WOULD BE UNMATCHED
IN INTELLECT. THERE, I
BELIEVE THAT ASKING
YOU WOULD BE THE
GREATEST SHORTCUT.















OH, NO,
YOU DO NOT
SHOW YOUR
SLEEPING
POSTURE
BEFORE
ANYONE,
DO YOU?



WHY DO
YOU NOT
LIE DOWN?



YOU ARE STILL
NECESSARY TO JAPAN
RIGHT NOW, YOU MUST
STAY ALIVE FOR A
WHILE LONGER.

THEN I DO
NOT WISH TO
SHOW YOU
MY PITIFUL
FORM.



OH, A
VASSAL OF
TRANQUILITY...? IF
YOU HAVE
FINALLY BE-
COME SUCH
KIND?



AND WITNESS
ME AS I LIVE AS
A VASSAL OF
TRANQUILITY.



I WOULD HAVE NEVER
KNOWN THE BLESSING
OF TRANQUILITY HAD I
NOT MET YOU. I HAVE
LIVED AS A PITIFUL
BEAST.



NO, NO,
I BELIEVED
THAT YOU
WOULD COME TO
THAT MINDSET
EVENTUALLY.



ONE WAS
LORD TAKEDA.
LORD SHINGEN
TAUGHT ME TO BE
RELUCTANT TO GO
TO WAR.



I HAVE MET FOUR IN
MY LIFE THAT I HAVE
FEARED, YET I AM
GRATEFUL FOR



THE NEXT WAS LORD
ODA NOBUNAGA, WHAT
A TERRIFYING NAME THAT
IS. BUT I HAD MUCH TO
LEARN FROM HIM, FOR
HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO
BELIEVE IN PEOPLE.



THE NEXT WAS HIS
EXCELLENCE. HE TAUGHT ME
WITH HIS OWN DEATH ABOUT
THE CHANGES BROUGHT BY
TIME, AND HOW ONE MUST
DEAL WITH THOSE CHANGES



I AM MUCH
OBLIGED.

AND THE LAST ONE IS YOU. HAD
YOU BEEN BORN EARLIER, YOU
WOULD HAVE HAD A CAPACITY TO
WATCH LORD SHIRAZEN, LORD
NORINAGA, AND EVEN HIS
EXCELLENCE.



PLEASE DO. THIS IS
A TIME WHEN YOU
MUST DISPLAY YOUR
ABILITY FOR THE
GENERATION TO
COME.

MY LORD, I WILL
OFFER MYSELF FOR
THE SAKE OF A
PEACEFUL WORLD.
I WILL WATCH WITH
MY EYE FOR ANYONE
WHO WOULD DISRUPT
THIS PEACE.



WITH YOUR
ABILITY, YOU COULD
DEAL EVENLY WITH THE
BARBARIANS, OLANDA,
AND THE ENIGMA YOU
SHOULD BE SHINING
YOUR LIGHT FOR
JAPAN, NOW MORE
THAN EVER.

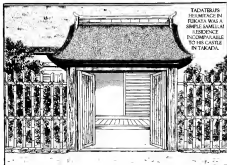


MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 61 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 62: THE END OF TADATERU



TADATERU'S
RESIDENCE IN
FUKUOKA WAS A
SIMPLE, SMALL, AS
RESIDENCE
INCOMPATIBLE
TO HIS CASTLE
IN TAKADA.





YOUR
MOTHER
WILL
ARRANGE
THE REST.



I UNDER-
STAND.



THAT IS THE ONLY WAY FOR
YOU TO SEE YOUR FATHER.
I WILL PREPARE EVERYTHING
YOU NEED FOR THE ROAD.
CONTACT LADY CHIA AS SOON
AS YOU REACH THE TEMPLE.



A FEW DAYS
LATER, TAIDATEMI
SNUCK OUT OF
THE MANSION
FROM THE
HIDE.



IWANO
ESTATE
IN EDO

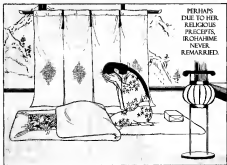


MEANWHILE,
TAKEMITSU WIFE
KONAKANE HAD BEEN
FORCED TO DIVORCE
HIM BY THE SHOGUN'S
DECREED, AND WAS
LIVING SOLE IN BED
FROM ALL THE
GRIEVE











SUNPU
CASTLE



WATER...
BRING ME
WATER...



YES,
RIGHT
AWAY.





YES.



CHIA, DO YOU
STILL HAVE THE
FLUTE "WIND OF
THE PLAIN" THAT
LORD NOSUNAGA
GAVE ME?



HERE IT IS.



EVEN THE
PERSECUTED LORD
NOSUNAGA AGED
TIMES WHEN HE
WOULD STAND
AMIDST THE WIND
OF THE PLAIN AND
PLAY THE FLUTE
AND THAT WAS A
SALVATION FOR
ME



GIVE THAT FLUTE
TO TADATERU AS
MY KISHENTO.

HE TAUGHT ME THAT
NO MAN IS INCAPABLE OF
SEVERING HIS BONDS WITH
WAR, THAT HE CAN LEARN
TO REDUCE BY CARRYING
A FLUTE IN PLACE OF A
SWORD.



AY...

YES, PEACE WILL SURELY
COME TO THIS WORLD. EVEN
A MAN SUCH AS NOBUNASA
PREFERRED THE FLUTE TO THE
SHOED. ALL MEN, FROM THE
DEPTHS OF THEIR HEARTS,
PREFER THE DELICATE TUNE
OF THE FLUTE TO THE WAR
CRY OF MURDER.



NOW,
WHO SHALL
I SEND TO
BRING THE
FLUTE TO HIM?



SO... I WILL GIVE IT TO
TAKETERU AS MY MEMENTO,
SO THAT WHEN I AM GONE...
HE WOULD SHOW IT TO THE
SHOGUN AND SAY "FATHER
GAVE THIS TO ME"... MAKE
SURE HE DOES!



HUH?
WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?



SO YOU REFUSE
TO MEET LORD
KAZUSA-NO-SUKE
IN PERSON?

I SAID, WHO
SHOULD I SEND
TO RINDAI TEMPLE
TO DELIVER THE
FLUTE?



NO, THAT WOULD BE TOO CRUEL TO LORD TAKETERU! JUST LET HIM SEE YOU... HE CAME ALL THE WAY FROM FUKUOKA TO SEE YOU, PREPARED TO BE SCOLDED FOR IT!



BUT THAT IS TOO PITIFUL! LORD KAZUSA IS YOUR SON, AND THIS IS NO ORDINARY TIME! THIS IS TOO PITIFUL FOR SOMEONE WHO CAME RECKLESSLY TO SEE YOU ONE LAST TIME!



THAT CANNOT BE. IT SIMPLY CANNOT BE...

I BEG YOU! JUST LET HIM SEE YOU ONCE MORE...



SO... SO WHY WON'T YOU HELP... FOR MY SAKES?



DO NOT LOSE YOUR COMPOSURE, CHAN. WHAT FATHER DOES NOT LOVE HIS CHILD?



THERE IS A REASON
IT CANNOT BE... LISTEN...
CALM DOWN AND LISTEN.
WE HAVE FORCED EVEN HIS
EXCELLENCE'S SON TO FALL
ON HIS SWORD. AND HIS
EXCELLENCE IS WATCHING,
AND HAS SEEN THAT SEIYASU
HAS OBIEI ONLY TO
HIDENORI...



WE MUST MAKE MANY
SMALL SACRIFICES TO
CREATE A WORLD WHERE
HE CAN. THAT IS WHY
I PERSISTED WHEN I
LOST MY ELDEST
SON NORIYASU.

OHAA, THE WORLD
RIGHT NOW IS NOT SO
PROSPEROUS THAT WE
CAN CHERISH ALL THE
THINGS WE LOVE.



ARE YOU
SAYING THAT JUST
BECAUSE YOU KILLED
HIS EXCELLENCE'S
SON, YOU MUST
KILL YOUR OWN
SON?



FOR THAT REASON,
THE SHOGUN HAS HAD
TO MAKE A THOUSAND
SUCH SACRIFICES, AND
HAS LEFT DATE AND
IDOMARU WITH
DEEPS OF BOWRY.

WHEN HIS EXCELLENCE
WAS NEAR DEATH, HE BECAME
DISTURBED, AND IN THE END HE
FORGOT THAT PERSISTENCE
AND STARTED BOWING HIS HEAD
TO ANYONE AND EVERYONE,
ASKING THEM TO CARE FOR HIS
SON. THAT FOOLISHNESS LED
TO TWO WARS, SEIKISANRA
AND THE SIEGE OF OKAWA.

I LOVE KAZUSA! BUT I HAVE DECIDED THAT I CANNOT SEE HIM ONE LAST TIME. I CANNOT SET AN EXAMPLE FOR HIS OTHER BROTHERS AND THE LORDS IF I WERE TO OVERTURN THAT DECISION.



I CANNOT HOLD ANYTHING IN CHECK WITHOUT THE PERSEVERANCE TO HOLD IT IN CHECK!

SO IF YOU LET LORD KAZUSA REMAIN AS HE IS, HE WILL EVENTUALLY REVOLT AGAINST THE SHOGUN AND BRING STRIFE TO THE NATION...?



BUT SINCE I REALIZED THAT MY SON WAS UNFAVORABLE FOR THE NATION, I MUST SHOW THE NATION THAT I WAS ENDLESSLY HARSH TOWARDS HIM.



I HAVE ALREADY BROKEN MY PROMISE TO HIS EXCELLENCE BY KILLING LORD HIDEYORI. I TRIED TO HONOR MY WORDS FOR THE NATION'S SAKE, BUT I FAILED...



INDEED, TURMOIL CAN SPROUT FROM THE TINIEST CRACKS, SOMETIMES WHEN ONE'S OWN ABILITY BACKFIRES. FOR THAT REASON, KAZUSA HAS A CAPACITY TOO BIG FOR HIS OWN GOOD. THAT IS WHY I AM SENDING HIM "WIND OF THE PLAIN".



YOU SAID THAT
KAZUSA CAME
UNANNOUNCED?



YES.



THIS MAY BE UPSETTING
FOR YOU, AND SORROWFUL
FOR ME, BUT THINK OF
HIM AS A SACRIFICE ON
THE ALTAR OF PEACE
AND FORGIVE ME.



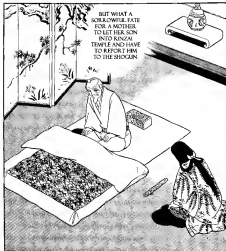
YOU WANT
ME TO REPORT
HIM TO THE
SHOGUN?



THEN REPORT HIM
TO THE SHOGUN.
TELL HIM THAT
KAZUSA CAME TO
SLAY WITHOUT
PERMISSION, AND
HE NEEDS TO BE
KEPT UNDER
TIGHTER GUARD.



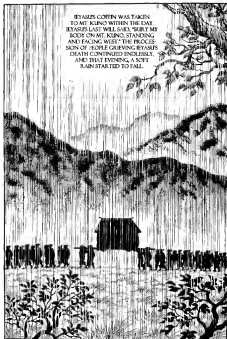
KAZUSA-NO-SUKE IS VIOLATING
THE LAW. IF WE LET HIM BE, THOSE
WHO FEAR KAZUSA-NO-SUKE WILL
HAVE AN EXCUSE TO ASSASSINATE HIM.
BUT IF WE REPORT HIM, THE SHOGUN
WILL PUT HIM UNDER GUARD. IS THAT
NOT SAFER FOR HIM?



TERASU PASSED
AWAY ON APRIL
17, GENNA YEAR
3 (1646), AT THE
HOUR OF THE
SERPENT
(JIGOSHI).



BYASUS' COFFIN WAS TAKEN
TO MT. KLINO WITHIN THE DAY.
BYASUS' LAST WILL SAID, "BURY MY
BODY ON MT. KLINO, STANDING
AND FACING WEST." THE PROCESSION
OF PEOPLE GRIEVING BYASUS'
DEATH CONTINUED ENDLESSLY,
AND THAT EVENING, A SOFT
RAIN STARTED TO FALL.







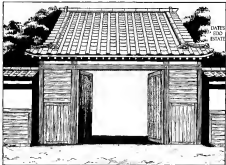


MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 62 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 63: RETAINER OF PEACE





DEPENDING
HOW I DO IT, I
COULD MAKE A
SALE BLOW
MYSELF.

WHAT? BEFORE
THE STORM? I'LL HAVE
YOU KNOW, THE STORM
HAS STOPPED. WHAT
BISNS ARE THERE OF
A SALE BLOWING IN
THIS NATION ASIDE
FROM MYSELF?



WHAT NONSENSE!
I WOULD NEVER
LET SUCH A THING
HAPPEN WHILE I
STILL DRAW
BREATH!

THE REAL TAKEOVER IS
JUST ABOUT TO BEGIN...
THE RETIRED SHOGUN'S
ASSOCIATES AND THE
SHOGUN'S ASSOCIATES
ARE ALL ABOUT TO TAKE
OUT THEIR OWN BASS
OF HIND AND COMPARE
THEIR HINDS.





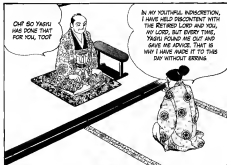












AND HOW COULD A MAN IN SUCH
A POST ABANDON HIS MOTHER OF
THE MUGAMI CLANT? HOW COULD I
KEEP THE OUTER LORDS IN CHECK
WHEN I CANNOT MAINTAIN PEACE
WITHIN? IT THAT WOULD MAKE THE
GREATEST ONCE AGAINST ME. THAT
IS WHY I MUST RETURN TO SENDAI
AT ONCE FOR MY MOTHER.



HAH... IS
THAT WHAT
HE SAID?



YES YASUJI TOLD ME
THAT WITH THE RETIRED
SHOGUN DECEASED, IT
IS UP TO ME TO WATCH
OVER THE OUTER LORDS
IN HIS PLACE.



YES. HOWEVER, IT WOULD
NOT BE AN IMPERIMENT IF
I WERE TO STAY A WHILE
LONGER. THAT IS, IF
THE MATTER OF LORD
KASHIMADOKU'S
PUNISHMENT STILL
REMAINS.



WHAT?
RETURN TO
SENDAI?

BY
YASUJI



WELL, IT
SEEMS YOU
HAVE BEEN
REINFORCED
HARDLY.







THE TIME WHEN MEN WERE
FOUGHT DRIVEN BY AMBITION
IS LONG PAST. HE SENT HIM
THE FLUTE TO TELL HIM TO
SURVIVE IN THIS WORLD OF
PEACE AND SEEK BLESSINGS.
THUS, I EXPECT THAT YOU
WILL ACCEPT HIS WILL, AND
NOT GIVE HIM A ROUGH
PUNISHMENT...



HMM...
SO THAT
IS WHAT
"WIND IN
THE PLAINS"
IS FOR

SO HE TOLD ME TO
NOT WORRY ABOUT
IT, AND GO MEET MY
MOTHER SO I CAN
CORRECT MY IMAGE.



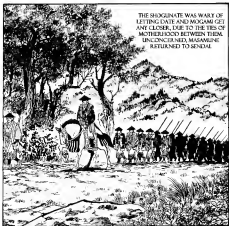
YOU COULD SAY THAT A
DEAD MAN CANNOT PLAY
THE FLUTE. THIS MUST
BE THE LOVE OF A
FATHER, SAYING TO
STRIP HIM OF HIS
SALARY, BUT NOT TO
ORDER HIM TO KILL
HIMSELF.



THIS IS WHAT
MAKES YOU A
BENIGNANT
RULER.

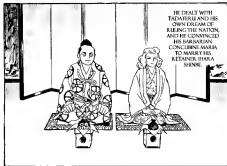


I UNDERSTAND, I
WILL RESPECT MY
FATHER'S WILL.

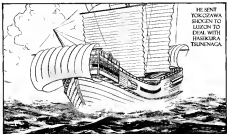




WHEN
MASAMUNE
RETURNED
TO SENDAI,
HE BEGAN
DEALING
WITH THE
FIVE ISSUES
KATAKURA
KAGETSUNA
LEFT BEHIND



HE DEALT WITH
TADATERU AND HIS
OWN DREAM OF
RULING THE NATION,
AND HE CONVINCED
HIS BARBARIAN
CONQUEROR MARIA
TO MARRY HIS
KEENER, SHARA
SENSEI.



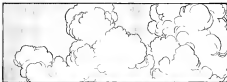
HE SENT
YOKOSAWA
SHOGUN TO
LUSON TO
DEAL WITH
HASEKURA
TSUNENAGA.

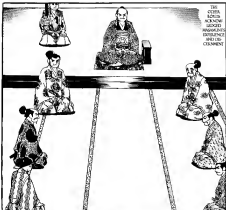


HE SENT
THE OLD
VETERAN
TAMAKA
SHIMA TO HIS
MOTHER IN
YAMAGATA.



HAVING DECIDED
TO LIVE AS A RETIRED
OF PEACE,
MASAMUNE DEALT
WITH ANY REASON
THE SHOGUNATE
WOULD HAVE TO
SUSPECT HIM.

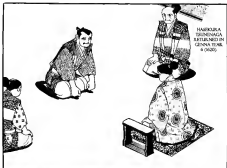




THE
OTHER
LORDS
WILL NOW
RECEIVE
HIS
EXISTENCE
AND
DECEASE



EVEN THE
SHOGUN HIMSELF
WOULD DISCUSS
THE ISSUES WITH
MAGNUM

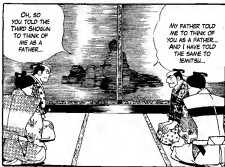


HASIKURA
TOSIMUNAGA
LEFTED NOBIO IN
GENNA YEAR
4 (1620).



IN GENNA YEAR 8, HE TOOK
HIS MOTHER, HOSHIKUN IN INTO
JINNAI REMEMBERING THAT
SHE ONCE TRIED TO POISON
HASHIRUNE. HOSHIKUN DID
NOT MOVE UNTIL THE AKOGANE
CLAN WAS ABSORBED







YOU ARE
THE MOST
EXPERIENCED,
DISCREET,
AND RESPONSIB-
LE MAN
IN ALL OF
JAPAN.



IS THAT
HOW MUCH
YOU TRUST
ME?



YES,
MY
LORD.

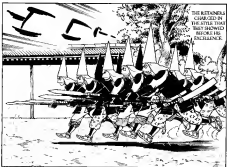
I AM
COUNTING
ON YOU,
FATHER
DAI.



AND AS HE SAID,
IBITSU ANNOUNCED
BEFORE THE LORDS,
"I WILL FOLLOW MY FATHER'S
DYING INSTRUCTIONS AND
THINK OF MASAHIRO AS
MY FATHER."





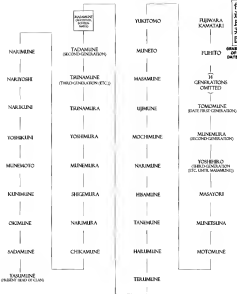






THE SAME MASAMUNE THAT
SOUGHT THE NATION IN HIS
YOUTH, AND REGRETTED THAT HE
WAS NOT BORN TWENTY YEARS
EARLIER... ABANDONED HIS
DREAMS WITH OSAKA CASTLE.
AS THE DRAGON SUMMONS THE
WINDS AND DRINGS THE CLOUDS,
THEN RISES TO HEAVEN, SO THE
ONE-EYED DRAGON MASAMUNE
LIVED A LIFE FULL OF STORMS
DEBITTING HIS NICKNAME,
AND RETURNED TO THE DUST
FROM WHENCE HE CAME.

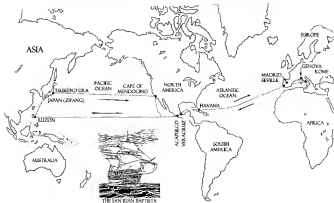






MAP OF HASEKURA TSUNENAGA'S
VOYAGE TO ENGLAND

(DEPARTURE ON SEPTEMBER 15, KICHO YEAR 18 (1600)
RETURN ON AUGUST 26, GENNA YEAR 6 (1602))



TIMETABLE OF EVENTS IN DATE MASAMUNE

EASTERN YEAR	WESTERN YEAR	EVENT RELATED TO MASAMUNE (> INDICATES MASAMUNE'S AGE)	EVENTS IN THE REST OF THE WORLD
ISHIO 13 14 15	1516 1517 1519		-PORTUGUESE REACH GUANGDONG -LUTHERAN REFORMATION -MAGELLAN'S CIRCUMNAVIGATION (1-1622)
TENRIKI 3 5 8 12 15	1534 1536 1542 1543 1549	-DATE TANIMUNE ENACTS LAW OF REFUGEE COLLECTION	-NORINAGA (KOTTON) IS BORN IN OWAJI -HIROYOSHI (FUSOYAKUJIRI) IS BORN IN NAGAMURA -ETYASHI (TAKASHIRO) IS BORN IN MIKAWA -PURSE INTRODUCED TO TAIKOKASHIMA -SHAMU ARRIVES AT KATAGIRI -BATTLE OF OKINAWA
ITAKOKI 3 4 10 11	1560 1561 1567 1568	-MASAMUNE (NORTH-PAW) IS BORN IN YONEZAWA, TO TERASHIGE AND MOKUJI (SOMER) (3) -SOMERINE COMES WITH TO HER SECOND SON, NUBIMARU (2)	-BATTLE OF KAWANAKURAMA -NORINAGA IS 34, HIROYOSHI IS 32, ETYASHI IS 34
GENKI 1 2 3	1571 1572 1573	-MASAMUNE LOSES HIS RIGHT EYE TO SHANLPOK (8) -REFUGEE TEMPLE COMPLETED, KOSAI CHOSEN AS HIGH PRIEST (6)	-BATTLE OF ANEGAWA -NORINAGA BUENS MT. IS -BATTLE OF MIKATAGAHARA
TENSHO 1 3 4 5	1573 1575 1576 1577	-MASAMUNE COMES OF AGE (2)	-SHINGEN DIES (AGE 55), MIYOMACHI SHOGUNATE COLLAPSES -BATTLE OF NAGASINO -NORINAGA BUENS, AUCHIN CAMEL -SPAN OCCUPIES LIZON

TEIKOKU 7	1579	MASAMUNE RAIDS HIEICHIJIME OF THE TAMURA OF MINAMU (3)	HOLLAND DECLARES INDEPENDENCE HONNO TEMPLE INCIDENT
9	1581		
10	1582	MASAMUNE FHS HIS FIRST BATTLE WITH TEIJUNMEIN IN KGI DISTRICT (4)	BATTLE OF KOMANO AND NAGASAKI
11	1584	TEIJUNMEI FIGHTS INHERITANCE TO MASAMUNE (5)	
13	1585	TEIJUNMEI DIES FROM HONAKOCHIMA VIOLENCE'S TUNISON (VARANOSI INCIDENT) (6)	
H	1586	MASAMUNE BEGINS BUILDING KASUGAKI TEMPLE AS TEIJUNMEI'S MEMORIAL (3)	
16	1588	MASAMUNE DATES IN LINK, TAMURA KIRIYAKI, DIES (3)	ENGLAND DEFEATS THE SPANISH ARMADA
17	1589	MASAMUNE OFFENDS ASHINA TOSHIOGI AT SUMAGERASA AT THE FOOT OF MT. TANAKA (3)	HIEICHIJIME RAISES UNDER THE HIGO WITH AN ARMY OF ONE MILLION
18	1590	MASAMUNE SUCCESSFULLY ESCAPES A KIRISHING ATTEMPT BY HIS MOTHER, KOSHIKUNYEN KIKIYOKASA	THE CHRY. NORONCA'S LAND SURVEY SENMO-BUKTU COMBATS BEGIN
19	1591	CASTLE IN AGEI LATER, HE REDES HIEICHIJIME AT COMASA DURING THE AGE OF THE HIGO (3)	
		MASAMUNE QUILLS KIKIYOKASA IN ODAI AND KASHI (3)	
BUNROKU 1	1592		HIEICHIJIME-BUNROKU INVASION
KOCHO 1	1596	MASAMUNE RETIRES FROM NAGASAKI IN KASHI AND HEADS FOR FUSAN (3)	ASA CHANGED DUE TO THE FUSAN EARTHQUAKE
2	1597		HIEICHIJIME KIRIYOKASA INVASION
3	1598		HIEICHIJIME DIES AFTER THE GREAT FLOWER VIEWING (AGE 43)
5	1600	THE BATTLE OF SEKIGAHARA (3)	IRIYAKI ASHIN DRAFTS ASHORE
6	1601	MASAMUNE IS APPROACHED BY ODAIRO NAGASAKI, MAGISTRATE OF ETATSU GOLD MINES (3)	
7	1602		HOLLAND FORMS THE EAST INDIA COMPANY
9	1604	RECONSTRUCTION OF THE WATSUMIYAMA GODAI FALL IS COMPLETE (3)	FIRST HETEROGENEITY BUILT IN FRANCE AND HOLLAND
10	1605		IRIYAKI TURNS PRODUCE OVER TO HIEICHIJIME
11	1606	BUSHIUME (AGE 15) MARRIES TEIJUNMEI (AGE 15) (4)	GASTRO INVENTS THE REFRACTING TELESCOPE
13	1609	MAIN HALL OF THE WATSUMIYAMA FUSAN TEMPLE COMPLETE (4)	IRIYAKI BUILDS NAGATA CASTLE
15	1610	SENDAI CASTLE COMPLETE (4)	ASANO NAGABASA (AGE 45) AND KATO KYOCHASA (AGE 58) DIE
16	1611	VERCARIO AND SCIRILO COME TO SENDAI (4)	

KANTO 8 1 12 13 14 15	1633 1634 1635 1636 1637 1639	<p>YOSHITSUNE PLACED FOLLOWING BARRIS (10) IN INCARCERATION BY FIVE THOUSAND KOKU IN ONE, AND RECEIPT OF 40,000 KOKU FROM BARRIS (10)</p> <p>BARRIS YOSHITSUNE WERE EL (TOMORI KOTOMORI, CANCER), MAMARINE DIES ON MAY 14 BURIED ON MT. KOTOMORI IN SENDAI (CURRENT SITE OF THE ZUBROON MUSEUM), FOLLOWING HIS FUNERAL, FIFTY MEN INCLUDING SHIDA SHOKUN FOLLOW HIM TO DEATH, HIS POSTHUMOUS NAME WAS TOSHIYU ZENBU ENJOKE, AND HIS POSTHUMOUS TITLE WAS LORD OF ZUBROON TEMPLE (10)</p> <p>THE ZUBROON MUSEUM IS COMPLETE</p>	<p>RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MAIN HALL OF KOTOMORI KOTOMORI TEMPLE COMPLETED, TRAVEL IS FORWARDED EXCEPT FOR LICKING SHIPS, RETURN FROM COMARADINE IS RESTRICTED</p> <p>ALTERNATING EXERCISES FOR KOTOMORI ESTABLISHED</p> <p>SHIDA CURRICULUM IS SUBMITTED, KANO BANBAKU DIES (AGE 77)</p> <p>THE SHIMAZUKA REBELLION (CONTINUES TO NEXT YEAR), KOTOMORI KOTOMORI DIES (AGE 40) THE PALACE IS ISOLATED</p>
SHOHO 1 1	1645 1646	DATE SHIGEMUNE DIES	<p>SHIMAZUKA KOTOMORI DIES (AGE 42)</p> <p>SHIDA KOTOMORI DIES (AGE 76)</p>
KANSEN 1	1664	THE KANSEN MUSEUM, FOR KANSEN'S HILL, TADAMUNE, IS COMPLETE	RELANCE EXTERMINATES THE EAST INDIA COMPANY
KYCHO 1	1716	THE KYCHO MUSEUM, FOR THE THIRD IN MAMARINE LINE, TADAMUNE, IS COMPLETE	KOKTA KOTOMORI DIES (AGE 42)
HEI 7	1874	ENBARLINED IN ACRU SHINE ON MT. KOTA IN SENDAI	
TAKHO 7	1918	PLANNED WITH A JUNE, SECOND KANE	
SHOHO 30 49 51 62	1945 1974 1976 1987	<p>MORE OF ZUBROON IS BURNED FROM AN AIR BLAST ON SENDAI ON JULY 15</p> <p>ACADEMIC INVESTIGATION FOR RESTORATION OF ZUBROON AFTER MAMARINE WAS UNVEILED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE ISLAND, IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT HE HAD TYPE B BLOOD, STOOD 5'6" TALL, HAD AN OVAL FACE, DEEP FURROWS, AND A HIGH NOSE</p> <p>RECONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON THE MAIN HALL AND WORKSHOP HALL OF ZUBROON (FIRST PHASE CONSTRUCTION)</p> <p>THE HISTORICAL DRAMA "KOTOMORI KOTOMORI" WRITTEN BY TADAMUNE KOTOMORI IS TELEVIEWED</p>	



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伊達政宗4

著者——（日）山本光峰 （英）山岡荘八・監訳

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巻の題文の訳者——（日） 山岡荘八・監訳 （英） 二見和子

巻の題文の訳者——（日） 山岡荘八・監訳 （英） 二見和子

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MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 63 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412